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1 February 1982

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2440

CONTENTS

ENERGY ECONOMICS

ARGENTINA

SEGBA President Explains Shortages in Power Output (Felix Imposti Interview; CONVICION, 2 Dec 81)	1
Briefs	
Gas Reserves	3

COUNTRY SECTION

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Barbados Paper Blasts U.S. Hostility Toward Grenada (CANA, 23 Dec 81)	4
Cubans in Jamaica Want U.S. Visas (CANA, 22 Dec 81)	7
CARICOM, ECOWAS To Strengthen Relations (CANA, 15 Jan 82)	8
Argentina Will Send New Beagle Document (NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, 19 Jan 82)	10
Briefs	
Guatemala Not To Close Door to Belizeans	12
Miskito Leader Denies Sandinist Attacks	12
Honduras Searches for Missing Nicaraguan Soldiers	13
Honduran-Counterrevolutionaries Relations Denied	13
Grenada To Participate in Managua Conference	13
Brazilian Credit to Jamaica	13
Brazilian-Cuban Ties	13

ARGENTINA

Political Leaders Search for Solutions to National Crisis (CLARIN, 29 Nov 81).....	14
President Discusses Wages, Civilian Participation (LA NACION, 17 Jan 82).....	17
Rights Committee Report Hits Government (HERALD, 20 Jan 82).....	18
Labor Leaders Continue Attempts at Unification (Luis Sartori; CLARIN, 30 Nov 81).....	20
Radio, TV Privatization Program Announced (LA PRENSA, 4 Jan 82).....	23
Briefs	
Metalworkers Union	26
New Cordoba Governor	26
CNT-20 Union Denouncement	26

BRAZIL

Commentator Weighs Cuban Trade Opening (Eduardo M. Suplicy; FOLHA DE SAO PAULO, 17 Jan 82).....	27
Chilean Trade Discrimination Noted (Rosental Calmon Alves; JORNAL DO BRASIL, 18 Jan 82).....	29
Briefs	
Antarctic Priority Project	31
Guerreiro Visit to PRC, Japan	31
Ministerial Visit to Europe, DR	31
Lula Gubernatorial Candidacy	32

COSTA RICA

Ten Percent Export Tax on Traditional Products Approved (LA NACION, 12 Dec 81).....	33
Monge Affirms Carazo Obstructs Way of Future Government (LA NACION, 17 Dec 81).....	35
Briefs	
Labor Minister Scores Disrupting	36

CUBA

Briefs	
Food Workers Ceremony	37
UJC Meeting	37
Salvadoran Solidarity	37
Hart Visits Nicaragua	38
Solidarity Message to Guineans	38

ERRATUM: In JPRS 79898, 20 January 1982, No. 2434 of this series, in article SECOND SET OF STUDY NOTES ON CASTRO'S CDR SPEECH, on page 96, para 2, change line 3 to read 'every cent per pound that the price of sugar drops, our country will lose 70 million dollars' to supply missing words.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Briefs

Clean Elections Guaranteed 39

EL SALVADOR

AD Defines Itself Anti-Marxist, Free Enterprise Partisan
(EL MUNDO, 9 Dec 81)..... 40

FUSS Criticizes Farm Land Leasing Decree
(EL MUNDO, 8 Dec 81)..... 43

Briefs

House-to-House Search 44

Arms Race Involvement Denied 44

Conflict Among Rebels Revealed 44

GRENADA

Whiteman on Human Rights Situation
(CANA, 23 Dec 81)..... 45

Bishop Stresses Industrial Development
(CANA, 2 Jan 82)..... 46

Briefs

Medical Aid 47

GUATEMALA

EGP Leader Interviewed by 'RADIO HAVANA'
(Andrea Ramirez Interview; Havana International Service,
19 Jan 82)..... 48

HONDURAS

Sugar Producers Demand Higher Consumer Prices
(LA PRENSA, 12 Dec 81)..... 50

Briefs

Paz Garcia To Be Army Adviser 52

JAMAICA

Seaga Says He Uses 'Head' Rather Than 'Heart'
(CANA, 13 Jan 82)..... 53

Seaga Reports Loss of Professionals to U.S. (CANA, 18 Jan 82)	55
JNEC Reports Increase in 1981 Exports (CANA, 6 Jan 82)	56
1981 Bauxite Sales Decreased (CANA, 18 Jan 82)	58
Briefs	
Assistance for Coffee Growers	59
Australian Envoy, Credit	59
Exports to CARICOM	59
NICARAGUA	
Central Bank President Reports 1981 Activity (Radio Sandino, 20 Jan 82)	60
PSC's Montalvan Denies Baltodano Accusations (Radio Corporacion, 14 Jan 82)	61
TELCOR Official Reports Violation of Mail Abroad (Radio Sandino, 21 Jan 82)	62
Briefs	
CDS Members Authorized To Make Arrests	64
Counterrevolutionary Elements Summoned	64
Cubans To Help in Harvest	64
PANAMA	
Hugo Spadafora Advocates National Unity Policy (LA PRENSA, 19 Jan 82)	65
Unions Oppose New Wage Scale for Canal Workers (CRITICA, 20 Jan 82)	67
Briefs	
Column Warns Against Agitators	68
PARAGUAY	
PRF Answers Colorado Party Senator (HOY, 22 Dec 81)	69
Briefs	
Armed Forces Assignments	70
Navy Assignments	70
Army, Navy Assignments	70
Capital Police Promotions	70
New State Council Member	70

State Council President	71
PRF Elects Officers	71
New FM Station	71
Honorary French Consulate	71
Army, Navy Officers Confirmed	71
Bridge Highway Contract Awarded	71
Oil Prospecting	72
Cost of Living	72
Balance of Trade	72
Fiscal Deficit	72
Cooperation Agreement With Spain	72
Manager Involved in Embezzlement	72
ST KITTS-NEVIS	
Premier Addresses Nation on Ailing Sugar Industry (Bertram Gilfillan; CANA, 14 Jan 82)	73
ST LUCIA	
Biographic Data of Brian Michael Pilgrim (CANA, 18 Jan 82)	75
SURINAME	
Briefs	
Unions Score Violations in Poland	77
TRINIDAD-TOBAGO	
Various Groups Request Boycott of Soviet Artists (EFE, 7 Jan 82)	78

SEGBA PRESIDENT EXPLAINS SHORTAGES IN POWER OUTPUT

Buenos Aires CONVICCION in Spanish 2 Dec 81 p 8

/Interview with SEGBA president, Rear Adm (Ret) Felix Imposti; date and place not specified/

/Excerpt/ In an exclusive interview with CONVICCION, the president of SEGBA /Greater Buenos Aires Electrical Services/ Rear Adm (Ret) Felix Imposti, explained the principal reasons for the frequent cutoffs of electric power.

One of the main problems--well known to all--is the flooding of the manholes.

This problem, though it is not within SEGBA's province since it is the result of the inadequate rainwater-drainage systems, is under study by the company's authorities.

Another important cause of the power cutoffs during the summer is the very heavy demand placed on the system by air conditioners and fans during heat waves.

Following is the conversation held with Vice Admiral (Ret) Imposti on these and other questions relating to the company he heads.

[Question] What are the principal causes of the frequent electric power cutoffs during the summer?

[Answer] Basically, the causes are that summer and winter demands on the various stations have become inverted. At one time, the winter demand was the greater, owing to the use of electric heaters. Now, the demand owing to air conditioners is producing a greater number of cutoffs in summer than in winter. Furthermore, higher ambient temperatures produce higher cable temperatures in summer than in winter. In addition, heavy rains produce flooding of our manholes, causing more cutoffs. These are the principal causes of interruptions in the power supply.

[Question] Is it then a faulty system?

[Answer] No, we cannot speak of it as a faulty system in itself. If we are to speak of faulty systems, I would have to say to you that the fault does not lie with SEGBA but rather with the system as a whole; that is, with the overall public services system. In other words, when heavy rains flood the manholes, the blame cannot be placed on SEGBA; it is rather that of a poorly planned drainage system; and so forth. By this, I mean to say that the blame is twofold: The first

part pertains specifically to the power company; the second part pertains to the system in general, to the overall public structure, which must be geared to public use of the services and to the offering of good services. The heavy-rains problem I have mentioned falls into the latter category. Then there is also the fact that high-temperature days are high-demand days.

On the other hand, I have stated heretofore on several occasions that from 1976 onward we have actually improved the power generating system. Why? Simply, because the generating system was not being properly maintained. So, during the years 1976, 1977 and 1978, we dedicated our efforts to put it back into proper working order. By 1979, we began to see the results. Our percentage of unavailability which had been 40 percent, is now down to approximately 16 percent. This is an equipment unavailability factor of an order that is comparable to internationally experienced values. Next, we began working on the transmission system. It is an arterial system, so to speak, that was also put in proper operating condition during the years 1980 and 1981. As regards the distribution system, we are going to devote our efforts to optimizing it over the next 2 years. The distribution system does the job of bringing power at the retail level to all consumers.

Under these condition, we are now going into a kind of sectoral distribution at 13,000 volts, and will drop from 13,000 volts to 280 volts in certain sectors. The result will be that the power demand being placed on the cables will no longer be overheating them, since raising the voltage brings down the intensity of the current. We have thus made several important gains which we are continuing and will continue over the next 2 years to increase, until we have achieved optimization of the distribution system.

Besides, in addition to the changes at the medium-voltage level, we are presently engaged in the installation of new 13,000-to-280 volt transformer stations, by sectors, as I have said. Lastly, we are bringing order to the process of integration of the two companies, Italo and SEGBA, which are now merged.

Once this problem has been resolved--and it now is, since Italo had its own systems separate from those of SEGBA--we will go into resolving the problem of flooding. This is obviously a very serious problem, since the flooding of a manhole represents a power outage for close to 6,000 users. Once this problem is resolved, power cutoffs will be drastically reduced. We are currently studying this problem, as I have said, although it is one that is not in our [province...] [text incomplete as published].

9238

CSO: 5400/2061

BRIEFS

GAS RESERVES--Proved natural gas reserves in Argentina total 641 billion cubic meters and, at the current rate of consumption, will satisfy the country's needs for at least another 60 years, according to an official report published yesterday. This increased estimate--which triples that at the beginning of the present 5-year plan--imparts to gas a leading role within the terms of reference of our hydrocarbons-self-sufficiency policy and in the actualization of projects aimed at converting the country into an exporter. These proved gas reserves and the outlook as regards probable reserves--estimated at 250 billion cubic meters and possibly more--brings availabilities to a total that exceeds the most ambitious current domestic market demand forecasts. Hence, according to the mentioned report, the country can expect now, and even more so in the future, to be able to export large quantities of gas to neighboring countries, via gas pipeline systems like those that interconnect with Brazil and Uruguay. The implementation of plans for achieving maximum possible marketing and domestic supply of liquefied gas is demanding an investment and services program of major magnitude, according to the report. With this in mind, the National Gas Agency is trying to attract available private capital to invest in a field defined as "executory interests," with a view to ensuring the fulfillment of policy lines that in practice will amount to state ownership. /Text/ /Buenos Aires CONVICCION in Spanish 29 Nov 81 p 14/ 9238

CSO: 3010/488

"The PRG, conscious of the intensification of the U.S. propaganda and pressures against Grenada, has catalogued, for the benefit of governments represented at the Panama meeting of the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the various anti-Grenada acts by the Reagan administration, including economic sabotage through the blocking of loans from international institutions.

"The PRG has since invited the OAS to send a team to Grenada to examine the allegations of political repression and torture of prisoners.

"Grenada's repeated efforts to promote even a dialogue with the Reagan government continue to be rebuffed. Only some weeks ago the PRG's foreign minister failed to get a meeting with the U.S. State Department when he passed through Washington.

"The new U.S. ambassador to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean is not credited to Grenada as was his predecessor. What irrationality on the part of a super-power towards a tiny Caribbean nation because of political differences.

"We feel that the time has come for a unequivocal denunciation of the unabated hostility towards Nicaragua and Grenada by the U.S.A. because of its undisguised hatred for Cuban revolution."

CSO: 3025/1017

CUBANS IN JAMAICA WANT U.S. VISAS

FL221700 Bridgetown CANA in English 1640 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 22 Dec (CANA)--U.S.-bound Cuban emigres, stranded here since leaving their country four months ago, say they want local organization, such as the Human Rights Council, to put pressure on the American Embassy in Kingston to grant them U.S. entry visas.

An estimated 500 Cubans came here in August expecting to collect visas to Honduras where they would await entry into the U.S. on visas mostly applied for by relatives living in the United States.

But according to the GLEANER newspaper today, a spokesman for the group said that "bureaucratic troubles" with the Honduran consulate here had not allowed them to keep their schedule.

None of the Cubans had applied for the visas through the Honduran consulate here, and many found that their names were not on lists sent through from Tegucigalpa, while there were names of people who had not arrived here. Only a small number have received Honduran visas.

A U.S. spokesman estimated that more than 200 of the Cubans had applied for entry visas from the embassy here, but noted that a large portion fell into the category that could make their wait as long as two years.

They had brothers and sisters as American citizens rather than spouses or parents and children.

However, the Cubans say they want their applications processed in a hurry, so that older members of the group be re-united with families and for children to resume schooling as soon as possible.

The embassy spokesman disclosed that between 40 and 50 applications have already been granted, and another 50 to 60 would be processed early in the new year.

He pointed out that the embassy was following normal U.S. procedure in dealing with the Cuban requests, and that moving up the Cubans would mean pushing back Jamaicans.

The Cubans, who left on their own accord, have stressed that they were not refugees, and that they have received no economic support from the Jamaican Government. They have been kept here through remittances from their families in the U.S.

CARICOM, ECOWAS TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS

FL151910 Bridgetown CANA in English 1626 GMT 15 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, 15 Jan (CANA)--The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) have agreed to strengthen relations between the two groups, according to a joint communique issued here.

The secretariats are to exchange information on their policies and programmes and assist in the promotion of trade and investment between West Africa and the Caribbean.

The communique was signed by CARICOM Secretary General Dr Kurleigh King and ECOWAS Executive Secretary Dr Aboubakar Diaby Ouattara at the end of a 2-day visit by a five-man top-level mission from the 16-nation West African Economic Community to the CARICOM headquarters in Georgetown.

It was agreed that the two groups should explore the possibility of granting observer status at each others statutory meetings and that a memorandum of understanding to cement and guide relations between the two organisations should be drafted and signed as soon as possible.

It was also agreed that possibilities of technical cooperation between the two secretariats will be pursued and the ECOWAS mission invited its hosts to visit the ECOWAS headquarters in Lagos, Nigeria, and other ECOWAS states.

At a press conference Dr Outattara said that the ECOWAS mission had paid a short visit to Trinidad before coming to Guyana and was engaged in a series of visits to regional integration organisations among developing countries, including the ASEAN group in Southeast Asia and the ANDEAN Pact group in South America.

"The reason for the series of visits," said Dr Ouattara, "is we consider it important for regional integration movements among developing nations to share experiences and ideas as well as develop inter-regional trade, especially since classical theories of economic integration and existing documentation draw very little from those experiences."

Speaking of his impressions of CARICOM, Dr Ouattara said the "members of the mission are particularly impressed by the effectiveness of WISCO (the West Indies Shipping Corporation) and the functional cooperation activities of CARICOM and the cultural and social activities of the community."

"Cultural exchange is vital for our regional movements, since cooperation is only possible if minds are set in the right way and people are allowed to see their cultural identity and their similarities rather than their differences," he stressed.

"We in West Africa have so much in common with the Caribbean that it is a pity that our stay here has been so short," he added, "but we hope that these initial contacts between ECOWAS and CARICOM are only the beginning of a fruitful relationship in the fields of culture, trade and general cooperation to the benefit of West Africa and the Caribbean."

The mission also had talks with Guyana Government officials before leaving for Caracas today.

CSO: 3025/1017

ARGENTINA WILL SEND NEW BEAGLE DOCUMENT

PY200212 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2250 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jan (NA)--It was officially reported today that the national government will submit to Pope John Paul II a new document about the negotiations with Chile over the Beagle channel. It has also been learned that Ambassador Carlos Ortiz de Rozas will head the Argentine delegation to the Vatican.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Hernan Massini Ezcurra said to journalists this afternoon that the delegate and alternate delegate of the Argentine negotiating mission in the Vatican, ambassadors Guillermo Moncayo and Gen (ret) Ricardo Etcheverry Boneo, have been confirmed in their positions.

He said that the two diplomats, who are currently in this capital on call by the Foreign Ministry, "will soon return to Rome carrying a document to be delivered to the Vatican." He did not, however, reveal the content of the government's note.

Massini Ezcurra also said that "considering the state of the papal mediation, it is deemed necessary to permanently have the presence" in Buenos Aires of one of the representatives before the Vatican in order "to directly advise" Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez on all matters related to the southern border conflict.

He said, "Therefore, Ambassador Moncayo will be transferred to Buenos Aires at the appropriate time."

It has also been learned in diplomatic sources that Carlos Ortiz de Rozas, current ambassador to Great Britain, considered one of the most outstanding Argentine diplomats, will be transferred to Rome to take over the double responsibility of ambassador to Italy and head of the negotiating mission in the Beagle conflict.

This report has not been confirmed or denied by the Foreign Ministry.

Ortiz de Rozas was called by the Foreign Ministry and has been in this capital since last Saturday. According to an official communique released yesterday, in addition to reporting about the negotiations of the Malvinas Islands Ortiz de Rozas will also be able to advise on matters of importance in Argentine foreign policy due to "his ability and background."

This paragraph of the Foreign Ministry communique was interpreted as a direct reference to the Beagle conflict with Chile in addition to the report that Ortiz de Rozas will reportedly be designated head of the negotiating mission in the Vatican.

The Argentine Embassy in London will reportedly be headed by Rear Adm (ret) Rodolfo Luchetta, a former Santa Fe governor.

CSO: 3010/647

BRIEFS

GUATEMALA NOT TO CLOSE DOOR TO BELIZEANS--Foreign Relations Minister Rafael Castillo Valdes has said that Guatemala cannot close its doors to Belizeans. The foreign minister admitted that trade between Guatemala and Belize has been partially resumed through the borders at El Peten, in answer to questions from Guatemala Flash [name of newscast]. The questions were raised because it is known that the flow of visitors from Belize through Melchor de Mencos has continued normally. Actually, Castillo said, Guatemala cannot close its doors to the people of Belize, who can find goods they need in Guatemala. Besides, he said, our departments of Izabal and El Peten do most of their trading with Belize and this is beneficial to our country's merchants. The Guatemalan Telecommunications Enterprise has disclosed that a Belizean telecommunications mission wishes to visit Guatemala to discuss matters related to this field. The date of the visit has not yet been fixed but it will be in late January or early February. When asked if this is possible, Castillo said only that he knows nothing about it. The question was asked because Belizeans are officially barred from crossing the border and the Belizean mission would have official status. [Text] [PA020334 Guatemala Cadena De Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 22 Jan 82]

MISKITO LEADER DENIES SANDINIST ATTACKS--The top Honduran Miskito leader has categorically denied reports about violation of Honduran territory by the Sandinist Peoples Army, EPS. (Galeas Bordas), president of the Honduran Miskito Organization (Mosquitia Asla Tanaka), has said that in accordance with information obtained by his organization, groups of Nicaraguan Miskitos who are members of counterrevolutionary bands have been constantly crossing the Rio Coco and attacking EPS detachments. With this statement, the Honduran Miskito leader denied the reports in Honduras which accused the EPS of having carried out incursions into Honduran territory to attack Nicaraguan Miskitos there. (Bordas) also said that at no time have EPS troops violated Honduran sovereignty or massacred Indians. He said that just the opposite has occurred. Groups of Miskitos deceived by Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries are the ones which carry out incursions into Honduras, provoking tension. The statement by (Bordas) which was published yesterday in the Honduran capital by the newspaper TIEMPO has caused quite an impression upon the public, since the good character of this leader of thousands of Honduran Miskitos is well known and his sources are viewed as totally reliable. His statement coincides with the denial by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel E'Escoto, who described the accusations as absurd and false. It also coincides with the statement by the Honduran Government secretary, who officially denied the reports. [Text] [PA171610 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jan 82]

HONDURAS SEARCHES FOR MISSING NICARAGUAN SOLDIERS--Managua, 18 Jan (AFP)--It was reported here today that the Honduran Government has told the International Red Cross that it will make every effort to locate the 27 Nicaraguan soldiers who allegedly disappeared in Honduras. Leonard Hisler, head of the International Red Cross delegation in Managua, today reported that he had visited Honduras to negotiate the help of the Honduran Government in the search of the Nicaraguan soldiers kidnapped by Somozist groups and allegedly transferred to that neighboring country. Hisler said that he had met with Angel Fortin, deputy foreign secretary, and with Oscar Mejia, the government and justice secretary. The two government officials promised to order an investigation into this matter. They warned, however, that the area where the soldiers allegedly disappeared in early December "is difficult to reach since it has very few roads." Hisler said that the International Red Cross had suggested the negotiations with Honduras. The organization had also suggested that he present Honduran authorities with the list of the 27 missing people. The list had been given to him by the Nicaraguan Government. [Text] [PA191628 Paris AFP in Spanish 2345 GMT 18 Jan 82]

HONDURAN-COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES RELATIONS DENIED--Tegucigalpa, 14 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Capt Alexander Hernandez, chief of the Honduran Police Special Operations Department, today rejected the Nicaraguan Government's accusation that he is collaborating with Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. "I do not know William Baltodano. I know what I have heard in the news from Nicaragua. I am surprised that high Nicaraguan Government officials involve me with Baltodano and with activities I have nothing to do with," Captain Hernandez asserted. Hernandez said that the charges against him "lack foundation, because my office has nothing to do with the Foreign Ministry Passport Office." [Excerpts] [PA151933 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1614 GMT 14 Jan 82]

GRENADA TO PARTICIPATE IN MANAGUA CONFERENCE--A representative from Grenada recently attended a planning session for the upcoming general conference of the Latin American and Caribbean Christian Peace Conference which took place in Nicaragua. Grenada's representative was Brother (Lelock Antwine), who attended the meeting along with delegates from Ecuador, Peru, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico and Canada. According to Brother (Antwine), the general conference will be held in the Nicaraguan capital, Managua, from 26 May to 1 June next year and efforts are being made to have more participants from the English-speaking Caribbean. Among the topics to be discussed, he said, were militarism, armaments, the U.S. intervention in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the challenge to Christians in the Caribbean to protect peace and independence in the region. [Text] [FL240135 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 23 Dec 81]

BRAZILIAN CREDIT TO JAMAICA--Kingston, Jamaica, 30 Dec (CANA)--Brazil is extending a [U.S.]\$3 million line of credit to Jamaica, the Brazilian Embassy here has announced. The embassy said that the credit line [was] for the purchase of capital goods and consumer items. It is to be administered by the Bank of Jamaica (Central Bank), and final arrangements are being made to put it in place, according to the announcement. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2137 GMT 30 Dec 81]

BRAZILIAN-CUBAN TIES--The Brazilian newspaper FOLHA DE SAO PAULO has urged the government to normalize diplomatic relations with Cuba and to foster economic-commercial cooperation with our country. The paper added that Brazilians should know the Cuban process better and praised Cuba's achievements, especially in education and public health. Lastly, FOLHA DE SAO PAULO said that the normalization of Brazilian-Cuban ties will help to strengthen mutual understanding and respect between the peoples of the two countries.

POLITICAL LEADERS SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS TO NATIONAL CRISIS

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 29 Nov 81 p 6

[Text] "Argentines know that we are undergoing an extremely serious crisis," said Arturo Frondizi, former president of the nation and head of the MID [Integration and Development Movement], at Pergamino last night.

"The results of an erroneous policy that has been applied over and beyond a 5-year period are making themselves felt with agonizing cruelty," he continued.

"We all know," he said, "that this crisis is not a passing thing nor one restricted to any particular sector of national life. The crisis is global; it concerns each and every one of the activities of the Argentine society."

The former president, who met with officials of the Pergamino Chamber of Commerce and Industry, later delivered a speech before 700 dinner guests on developmentalism within the second electoral section, dwelling before them as well on the gravity of the situation.

"There is a social crisis," he emphasized, "in that the social groups, sectors and classes are hurt and upset. Conditions are building up to an explosion, and the possibility of a recrudescence of violence is absolutely not to be discarded."

He said that "There is also a moral crisis, in that things are taking place in the country that would be unthinkable without the breakdown of the ethical principles that govern all coexistence." And he warned that, despite this, "The crisis, though global, is not amorphous," since, "Its center of gravity lies within the economy."

Illia

Former president of the nation Arturo Umberto Illia, for his part, and from the Radicalist viewpoint, said at another party meeting held in the Ateneo Hipolito Yrigoyen at Flores that "What is occurring now should not be dramatized, but neither should it be considered a laughing matter."

'A Power Struggle'

With regard to recent events on the national scene, "which have the upper circles as the stage," Miguel Unamuno, former minister of labor, observed that "The Argentines do not understand very well whether this is an authentic illness or part of a maneuver to modify the power structure.

"I personally believe it is the latter. I believe we are seeing one of the first signs of a power struggle within the Armed Forces. And I also believe our presidential institution is being seriously damaged by events of this kind."

'Step Down'

The Armed Forces "must step down from power" to enable the formation of "a transitional government that will guarantee free and clean elections, without prior conditions," said former national senator and secretary of the executive group of the UCR, Luis Leon, speaking at the conclusion of the dinner held for the UCR youth of the province of Buenos Aires.

"A government that does not know in the morning what has to be done that afternoon has no right to continue in existence amidst a total lack of public faith and confidence," said Leon, pointing out that "The Armed Forces have held power for 6 years and have exercised it badly."

9238

CSO: 3010/488

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES WAGES, CIVILIAN PARTICIPATION

PY210031 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 17 Jan 82 pp 1, 10

[Excerpts] "No, no decision has been made," said Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri in answer to a question if a decision had been made about wages for state personnel. At the conclusion of a visit with the labor minister in the minister's office, the president talked about his conversation of almost 3 hours with Labor Minister Julio Cesar Porcile.

At the main entrance of the Labor Ministry in the company of Porcile and aides, Galtieri reiterated: "Regarding union normalization, a process of greater civilian participation has begun."

He added: This idea also prevailed in the designation of governors for this governmental term; and there also are more civilians in the state and provincial enterprises. Regarding his visit to the Labor Ministry he said: "I have also decided that the process of normalization should include greater participation by union leaders in the labor area." He also said that he studied "the entire labor area including salaries and union normalization, among other things."

After a report by people responsible for the labor area, the following presidential directive was released:

"A. Pursuant to the policies planned for this stage of the process of national reorganization related to a greater civilian participation in different areas of the government, I recommend a gradual and progressive increase in the participation of union leaders in union normalization.

"B. The intensification of information related to the current government plans aimed at clarifying the measures adopted in the labor area.

"C. Coordination with the Interior Ministry in the search for the best solutions to the tasks of the regional delegates in order to obtain an adequate coverage in the entire national territory.

"D. Permanently up to date maintenance of salary and employment statistic data.

"E. Intensification of the studies currently in development regarding the implementation of the national employment service."

According to the communique of the public information secretariat, the president set terms in each case for the fulfillment of the directives.

RIGHTS COMMITTEE REPORT HITS GOVERNMENT

PY202244 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 20 Jan 82 p 9

[Text] (NA)--Members of the committee of relatives of persons missing and detained for political reasons received anonymous death threats over the Christmas period, it was revealed yesterday in a statement made public by the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights (APDH).

Members of the committee in Cordoba received a sheet of paper with a picture of a skeleton carrying a scythe and an inscription reading, "happy last Christmas," the APDH said.

The APDH statement gave also a general balance on the subject of human rights in Argentina during 1981.

"Argentine society," the statements reads, "has witnessed the constant crushing of its most elemental and sacred rights by means of the machinery of repression which has been built up and which continues to act with total impunity."

"This is borne out," the APDH said, "by those intimidatory operations carried out at any time and place by the police, or by members of the security forces, in which the possession of the appropriate documentation provides no legal guarantees."

The whim of one individual policeman can lead to the arrest of any individual, the APDH statement claimed. The only possible explanation for this, it added, is the desire to intimidate the population and oblige it to renounce its constitutional rights.

The APDH said that apart from the thousands of cases of people who have allegedly disappeared, some 700 people continue in prison without ever having been charged or brought to trial. Most of these people, it added, have been held for more than five years.

Another "violation" of human rights cited by the APDH is that represented by "the country's reigning economic instability, the layoffs and sackings and the violent expulsion of slum-dwellers from their homes."

The APDII statement concludes by saying that the anonymous death threats received in Cordoba "constitute one intimidatory attempt more to block efforts both to recover the liberty of those detained and to clear up the situation regarding missing persons."

The statement bears the signature of reverend Enzo Giustozzi and the leaders of the intransigent party (Oscar Alende), the United Socialist Party (Simon Lazara), and the Christian Democrat Party (Augusto Conte and Eduardo Pimentel).

CSO: 3010/647

LABOR LEADERS CONTINUE ATTEMPTS AT UNIFICATION

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 30 Nov 81 pp 16-17

[Article by Luis Sartori: "Approaching a New Phase"]

[Text] Internal debates and confrontations are springing up again in the unions as they approach a possible new phase of government policy.

Everything centers on the quest for effective means of pressuring for conditions that will reverse the critical social situation, and--in the case of organizations that have wagered on unification--on the censuring of union leaders who bet on the authorities that came into power last March.

Congresses, assemblies, private--and not so private--meetings held during the past several days by the big industrial and service unions all point in that direction, in a temporary meeting of minds that is not altogether explained by their usual year-end balance sheets, although this in some cases was indeed the reason for the convocation.

For example: The delegates of the mercantile unions debated on Friday the problems of the million employees they represent and agreed to mobilize them to demand a minimum salary of 3 million pesos, among other priorities. But they also took issue with the current CGEC [General Confederation of Business Employees] lineup of delegates within the Intersectoral CNT [National Labor Commission]-20, the leadership group that failed in its talks with the Viola administration.

Impugnment

The highly visible CNT leader, pliable Jorge Triaca, underwent serious controversy the same day, for the first time in the last several years, and the assembly convoked to pass on the general management of the union ended with an audible repudiation of the delegates who report to the head of the Northern Zone, Juan Carlos Maso.

Thus, a fracture took shape in one of the bastions of the Intersectoral, even though the dissident proposal to remove the entire negotiating group did not gather support.

In Luz y Fuerza [Lighting and Power], the services union similar to the mercantile one, also, like the latter, held a congress last week. Its primary purpose was to consider steps to be taken with respect to the serious impact on the union members of the arrears in payments to the respective agencies for social services rendered --in effect, a cutoff of medical assistance.

Almost simultaneously, the issue was taken up at the highest levels of the Labor Ministry, where it was decided to discuss the matter next Thursday, with participation by leaders of the unions, the INOS [National Institute for Social Works] and Agua y Energia [Water and Energy].

Outside the agenda, however, some representatives from the interior advocated--without success, but in line with an approach opposed to the leadership--taking up the policy aspect of the union's course of action.

Lighting and Power, currently "intervened" at the national level, is another of the organizations that have joined the parade in favor of dialogue with the government and the employers, also amid criticism from within regarding the course it has followed, first within the CNT, then within the CUTA [Unified Leadership of Argentine Workers], and since the beginning of the year, within the Intersectoral.

The organization in which the force of discontent has made itself felt the most in recent hours has been none other than the powerful UOM [Metalworkers Union].

Unhurriedly but insistently, the largest section of the UOM--namely, that of the Federal Capital--has been taken over again by the union's former secretary general, Lorenzo Miguel.

On Tuesday, one-third (approximately) of the country's sectionals exchanged views with each other on what to do now, in a dialogue that brought together advocates of the various internal persuasions and nailed down a few basic points of agreement that assure Miguel of a shoring up of his image.

Independent Course

Seen there, for example, were Mario Barrientos (San Martin) together with Hugo Curto (Caseros), and Miguel together with Ruben Marcos, who, it is said, has abandoned the dialoguist cause and given up the leadership of his sectional, as mentioned heretofore.

Two months ago, the former Argentine president of the ICFTUO [International Conference of Free Trade Union Organizations] submitted his resignation from his UOM position, felled by the payola received from contacts in the Ministries of Labor and Economy and the aftermath of attacks against him on this score. His own sectional voted in favor of his leaving the Intersectoral. Twenty days ago, Miguel, for his part, took a forward stride (which has just been ratified by Tuesday's miniplenary) when, after a long time, he met with Luis Guerrero.

Guerrero, in charge of the Avellaneda sectional, heads a sector that is opposed to Miguel and made this known at that time, to judge from the shouts that were heard outside the closed door. Marcos and Lisandro Zapata (Guerrero's man in Mendoza) had to intervene as peacemakers in the situation.

The one who has continued alien to contacts and entrenched behind an independent line for the time being is Victorio Calabro, the third head of the UOM. His loyal sectionals (Vicente Lopez, La Plata and San Nicolas) appear to be awaiting the outcome of the intensive moves being made by other UOM officials.

Whatever the outcome of this phase of rapprochement, some annals of which have yet to be written, it is evident that the entire union movement is awaiting the decisions yet to be made.

Some more hopefully, others less so--but all--desire the strengthening of the UOM because they recognize the pulling power of that organization and its traditional drive, recently dormant.

Whether or not its leaders will achieve that strengthening only time will tell--the same time that must transpire for the whole picture to be clarified institutionally.

Meanwhile, some unions (or better yet, their leaders) continue seeking solutions that objectively are still meeting with too many difficulties.

One of these is Unidad Sindical [Labor Unity], which emerged again during the previous week amidst talks on receiving the visits of Enzo Friso and Juan Jose del Pino, leaders of the ICFTUO and the ORIT [Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers], respectively.

Short Visit

Both, on a short visit to the country during these days, were the epicenter of meetings between the moderate sector of the CGT [General Labor Confederation] and representatives of the Intersectoral, which were not attended by the leaders of the big CNT unions (Metalworkers, Plastics, Lighting and Power, Mercantile), perhaps because they were too wrapped up in internal problems.

The fact is that, aside from occasional ill-fated moves, the deliberative phase is under way in organizations that have yet to be heard from; others, like that of the judicial system employees, have opted for expressing by way of a demonstration (a more strident form) their repudiation of the official philosophy.

And that, both tactical approaches reflect the same malaise that is leading them to protest, even though they intuit that remedial action is remote.

9238

CSO: 3010/488

RADIO, TV PRIVATIZATION PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

PY192009 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 Jan 82 p 7

[Text] The program to hand over television channels of this capital to the private sector will start this year with Channels 11 and 13, as was recently announced by Gen Rodolfo Feroglio, president of the Federal Radio Broadcasting Committee [Comite Federal de Radio Difusion--COMFER].

These two television stations will be the first to be handed over to the private sector here and will be followed by Channel 9 in 1983.

Radios EL MUNDO, SPLENDID, MITRE and EXCELSIOR, four of the main radio stations of this capital, will also be handed over to the private sector this year.

Feroglio, as everyone knows, made these announcements during a press conference in which he disclosed the dates when calls for bids will be made in order to hand over radio and television stations in various points of the country to the private sector by 21 February 1983.

According to Feroglio's announcements, on 6 May and 5 July of this year public bids will be called for and the offers will be opened for the handing over to the private sector of television channel 11 of this capital and the radio stations LV5 RADIO SARMIENTO of San Juan and LRA56 RADIO PERITO MORENO of Santa Cruz.

Calls for bids for the handing over to the private sector of Channel 13 will be made on 20 September and the opening of offers is scheduled for 19 November together with those concerning stations LT8 RADIO ROSARIO and LRA57 RADIO EL BOLSON of Rio Negro Province.

Feroglio stated that for the beginning of the year the radio broadcasting program provides for the calling for bids and handing over to the private sector of LRI RADIO EL MUNDO to be carried out on 22 March together with LU4 RADIO PATAGONIA ARGENTINA of Comodoro Rivadavia and LRA52 RADIO CHOS MALAL of Neuquen.

RADIO SPLENDID will be handed over to the private sector on 19 August together with LT12 RADIO GENERAL MADARIAGA of Paso de Los Libres, Corrientes Province; LT34 of Zarate, Buenos Aires Province and LRA55 RADIO ALTO RIO SENGUER of Chubut.

The calling for bids and opening of offers for the handing over to the private sector of LR6 RADIO MITRE; LU23 RADIO LAGO ARGENTINO of Santa Cruz; LV4 RADIO SAN RAFAEL of Mendoza Province and LRA59 RADIO GOVERNADOR GRERORES in Santa Cruz Province will be made on 5 August and 4 October respectively.

The calling for bids and opening of offers for LR5 RADIO EXCELSIOR; LV19 RADIO MALARGUE of Mendoza and LRA25 RADIO TARTAGAL of Salta Province will be made on 3 February and 4 April respectively.

On the same occasion Feroglio announced that the call for bids and opening of offers for LV12 RADIO INDEPENDENCIA of Tucuman Province; LT14 RADIO GENERAL URQUIZA of Parana and LRA58 RADIO MAYO of Chubut will be made on 4 November 1982 and 3 January 1983 respectively.

The call for bids and opening of offers for television station LS89 Channel 7 of Mendoza and radio stations LV3 RADIO CORDOBA of Cordoba and LRA24 RADIO RIO GRANDE of Tierra Del Fuego will be made on 29 December 1982 and 21 February 1983 respectively.

Although Feroglio made no announcement regarding television Channel 2 it is believed that an official announcement on the handing over to the private sector of this channel will be made shortly.

The aforementioned channel was the last to go on the air in this capital; it broadcast its first program on 30 July 1966. Channel 2 was initially part of the enterprise comprised of the daily EL MUNDO--which had disappeared--and RADIO RIVADAVIA.

Channel 9, on its part, went on the air on 8 June 1960 with Ildefonso Recalde as the chairman of its board of directors. The final expansion of this radio station was made when Alejandro Romay was chairman, but it was intervened by Peron's government in 1974 together with Channels 11 and 13.

Channel 11 went on the air on 21 July 1961 and at the beginning was engaged in broadcasting the Catholic Church's cultural programs.

Channel 13 went on the air on 1 October 1960 as the amalgamation of Rio De La Plata Inc. and the Argentine Television Production [Productora Argentina de Television--PROARTEL], headed by Cuban producer Goar Mestre, whose television company has been expropriated by Fidel Castro.

The plan to hand over operational radio and television channels to the private sector also provides for the opening of new stations.

Henceforth, between 22 March and 20 May a call for bids will be made and offers extended for the installation of new radio stations in Federacion, Entre Rios Province; and Cutral-co, Neuquen Province and for a television channel in Tandil, Buenos Aires Province.

The same will be done between 6 May and 5 July for new radio stations in the cities of Santo Tome in Corrientes, General Acha in La Pampa and Vera in Santa Fe.

Another call for bids will be made between 21 June and 19 August for the installation of radio stations in Metan in Salta and Termas de Rio Hondo in Santiago Del Estero.

The series of calls for bids will continue between 5 August and 4 October for radio stations to be installed in Chajari in Entre Rios Province and Concepcion in Tucuman Province and between 20 September and 19 November for stations to be installed in General Jose de San Martin, Chaco Province; San Pedro, Jujuy Province, and Chascomus in Buenos Aires Province.

The following bid calls to be made on 4 November 1982 and 3 January 1983 will be for the installation of radio stations in Esquina, Corrientes Province, and San Cristobal in Santa Fe Province and for a new television channel in Olavarria in Buenos Aires.

The series of bid calls ends with those to be made between 20 December 1982 and 21 February 1983 for radio stations to be installed in Ceres, Santa Cruz Province; Cruz Del Eje in Cordoba Province, and San Pedro in Buenos Aires Province, while the call for bids to be made between 3 February and 4 April 1983 will be for the installation of radio stations in Diamante, Entre Rios Province; La Carlota, Cordoba Province; and Bolivar in Buenos Aires Province.

CSO: 3010/647

BRIEFS

METALWORKERS UNION--Mar Del Plata, 15 Jan (NA)--The reunification of the Metalworkers Union [UOM] that was achieved here today is one of the most important union events since the present military government came into power. The unity that this sector had been unable to achieve since the ouster of Isabel Martinez de Peron should be considered possible from now on. The agreement was reached this afternoon by Lorenzo Miguel and Luis Guerrero, leaders of the two main UOM factions which had been in confrontation. The unity was not complete because the faction led by former Buenos Aires Governor Victorio Calabro did not come to terms with the other two factions. [Julio Bazan] [Excerpt] [PY212235 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0215 GMT 16 Jan 82]

NEW CORDOBA GOVERNOR--Cordoba, 20 Jan (NA)--Cordoba's mayor Ruben Juan Pellianda has been designated new provincial governor replacing Adolfo Sigwald, the public information secretary officially reported. Pellianda, a former public health secretary, will probably take over next week because the official report does not specify the day when he will be sworn in. With this appointment Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri ended the restructuring of the list of provincial governors, which included new provincial heads in the provinces of Buenos Aires, Santa Fe, Mendoza and San Juan. Pellianda is the first civilian to be appointed governor (of Cordoba) since the beginning of the military government in March 1976, after the overthrow of Maria Estela Martinez de Peron. [Text] [PY201822 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1437 GMT 20 Jan 82]

CNT-20 UNION DENOUNCEMENT--(NA)--The CNT-20 labor grouping last night rejected the government's economic policies, saying that "they are aimed not only against workers, but also against the basic rights of our sovereignty." Economy Minister Roberto Alemann's wages policy was also lambasted by the CNT-20. The grouping's statement was critical of the government's purported plans to denationalize mining resources and state companies in areas thought to be of strategic importance, like communications and hydrocarbons. [Text] [PY192258 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 19 Jan 82 p 9]

CSO: 3010/647

COMMENTATOR WEIGHS CUBAN TRADE OPENING

PY200042 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Jan 82 p 33

[Commentary by Eduardo M. Suplicy: "Relations With Cuba"]

[Text] In the early 1960's, when people were discussing whether Brazil should establish trade relations with socialist bloc countries, there were some who, because of ideologic reasons, noted that Brazil was not interested in trading with these countries since the trade volume would be of little importance. Today, however, trade with Eastern European countries is an important part of Brazilian trade relations. Moreover, its potential is even greater. This was shown by the Brazilian mission headed by Planning Minister Antonio Delfim Neto that visited the Soviet Union last July.

The president of the Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries [FIESP], Luis Eulalio Bueno Vidigal Filho, and Sao Paulo Governor Salim Maluf are wrong in appraising negatively the efforts of the exploratory mission carried out by the president of the Brazilian Confederation of Commercial Associations Ruy Barreto to Havana with the purpose of probing trade possibilities with Cuba. The FIESP president noted that Brazil is not interested in trading with Cuba because its market is too small to absorb Brazilian products. If this position is accepted, Brazil should not make any effort to develop trade relations with all those countries having an economy that is not as important as that of Cuba, such as Uruguay, Paraguay, Lebanon, Ecuador and others which, although small, taken together are an important part of Brazilian overall trade.

Moreover, Maluf said that eventual trade with Cuba will not have any practical effect on the Brazilian economy because the Cuban and Brazilian economies are parallel, producing similar raw materials, while the Cuban market for machines and equipment is monopolized by the Soviet Union.

But this is the point of view of those who, because of ideologic reasons, do not want to be objective.

Several Brazilian refugees who lived in Cuba for several years, such as former student leader Jose Dirceu who studied economy in Cuba, have stated that Brazil would be in position to sell a series of products that Cuba is buying from more distant countries and which Brazil manufactures at lower prices and in better quality. These products range from cars, buses, tractors, household appliances and food to industrial equipment.

The indicators of the Cuban economy are not as negligible as some would like to suppose or have others believe. According to the IBRD report on world development published in 1981, the per capita GDP of 9.8 million Cubans was on the order of \$1,410 in 1979 after growing at the average annual rate of 4.4 percent in the 1960-1979 period. The per capital GDP of 116.5 million Brazilians was on the order of \$1,780 in 1979, a level reached at an average annual growth rate of 4.8 percent during the 1960-1979 period.

Although as measured by those indicators Cuba had economically underperformed Brazil, that country did better with its social indicators. For instance, in 1979 life expectancy at birth was 79 for Cubans and only 63 for Brazilians. In 1976, the literacy rate among Cubans above the age of 14 was 96 percent compared with 76 percent among Brazilians in the same category. These indicators show that there might be important reasons for Brazilians to get acquainted with the Cuban development process.

There are no justifiable arguments for our isolation from Cuba because we maintain increasingly more important trade relations with almost all socialist countries. The argument of disagreement with the political methods of the Cuban Government does not hold because we maintain relations with countries in Latin America and other continents whose governments or regimes came to power by violent means. There is even a country in which the previous president who had been constitutionally elected through democratic means was assassinated. Even then the Brazilian authorities did not try to impose commercial sanctions.

Therefore, the Ruy Barreto's mission has a positive pioneering nature in that it tries to open trade possibilities which should in time transcend regimes and governments. These relations are promoted mainly among peoples who will eventually achieve greater mutual understanding and respect for different viewpoints.

It is time to lift the restrictions imposed since 1964 because they are not in consonance with legitimate aspirations to brotherhood and contact between peoples who have a great deal in common.

CSO: 3001/69

CHILEAN TRADE DISCRIMINATION NOTED

PY201850 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 18 Jan 82 [no page given]

[Article by Rosental Calmon Alves]

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile--Brazil was one of the countries that reaped large benefits when Chile opened up its market to foreign goods. And during the past few years it had obtained an extraordinary increase in its sales to that country, but now it is facing ever-increasing problems that running from the retraction of that market (which is suffering a serious recession) and to accusations of dumping [given in English] and competition from other imported goods.

The government has started to adopt more severe measures against the eventual practice of unfair competition, such as granting export subsidies in the country of origin. But, despite the large amount of subsidized goods that enter from other countries, only Brazil is being officially accused.

The severe anti-dumping legislation has been in effect for just over 2 months and only two cases of unfair competition have been accepted by the Chilean authorities, both of them against Brazil: one in the paper sector and the other in the chemical sector. Another case will be brought against Brazil this week, this time in the steel sector.

Currently there is an undisguised strain in the relations between the two countries due to purely economic motives. This strain is getting worse, because only Brazil is being pursued for its alleged subsidized goods, leading to the belief that a certain discrimination is being carried out.

An enterprise owned by the Chilean Government, the Pacific Steel Company, on announcing that it would institute charges regarding Brazilian goods, made a serious accusation that affects not only Brazilian enterprises, but the Brazilian Government itself. The accusation states that it is necessary to make Brazil comply with the international commitments it has assumed regarding international trade.

As Brazil considers its subsidies as fully within the framework of the GATT [General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs] resolutions, the Chilean state enterprise accusation could cause very negative political repercussions on relations between the two countries.

However, these negative repercussions started some time ago and one of the examples was the international competition for the construction of the Colbun-Machucura dam, an undertaking valued at \$800 million. The Brazilian firm of Norberto Oderbrecht was certain of winning, but the Chileans preferred the lower price offered by the French. Then, as the French could not comply with the contract they were replaced by the Americans and thus Brazil was definitely left out in the cold.

Diplomats from the two countries acknowledge the difficulties in the economic sector, but they do not accept the hypothesis that these difficulties will turn into political ones in the future. On the contrary, they indicate that solutions will be forthcoming very soon. Within the trade sector, CACEX [foreign trade departments] recently implemented a resolution that allows Chilean peaches to be imported into Brazil, free of any duties, and it must implement other resolutions of a similar nature.

CSO: 3001/69

BRIEFS

ANTARCTIC PRIORITY PROJECT--Brasilia, 19 Jan (TELAM)--Brazilian Navy Minister Maximiano da Fonseca said in this capital that Brazil will request information from Chile and Argentina on their expeditions to the Antarctic, since these two countries have already conducted various research studies in that region. Da Fonseca also asserted that the Antarctic project and the replacement of military equipment are among the Brazilian Navy's priorities. Asked if there was any negligence by the government in not having planned earlier an expedition to the Antarctic, the minister remarked: There was no negligence whatsoever. It is simply a matter of priorities and at present this project can be classified as top priority. Da Fonseca asserted that all the details of the expedition should be arranged by September, including the ship to be used. He expressed his belief that the best option would be the British ship "Endurance," already operating in the Antarctic serving the British Crown, which Great Britain will replace in April. [Excerpt] [PY201136 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1230 GMT 19 Jan 82]

GUERREIRO VISIT TO PRC, JAPAN--Sao Paulo, 21 Jan (TELAM)--Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro revealed here today that he will visit the PRC and Japan during the course of this year. The foreign minister, speaking at the study center [centro de documentacion] for Asia and Oceania of Sao Paulo University, commented that the Far Eastern nations are becoming more and more important for Brazil, especially in the political-diplomatic and economic-trade aspects. In order to stress the importance that the Far Eastern nations have for Brazil, Saraiva recalled that in 1970 Brazilian trade with the nations of Asia and Oceania amounted to \$400 million, while last year it amounted to \$3.5 billion. The foreign minister reported that he is preparing a schedule for a visit to the PRC and Japan during the course of the current year, probably during the last 6 months. [Text] [PY211506 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1220 GMT 21 Jan 82]

MINISTERIAL VISIT TO EUROPE, DR--It was learned in economic circles that Planning Minister Delfim Neto and Finance Minister Ernane Galveas have already set the goals for the visits they will both make to Europe in the coming days. On 26 January Delfim Neto will leave for Portugal, France and Belgium where he will carry out negotiations estimated to amount to \$1.5 billion. On 1 February Minister Ernane Galveas leaves for Switzerland where he will participate in the European Management Forum. In Zurich he will meet with bankers. Another minister who is scheduled to travel is Labor Minister Murillo Macedo, who on 22 [as printed] will go to Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, where he will participate in the 7th Inter-American Conference of Labor Ministers. [Excerpt] [PY191730 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 19 Jan 82]

LULA GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDACY--Ouaiimaugo, 20 Jan (TELAM)--A day after the Brazilian Government converted the electoral bill into a law, establishing that elections be held next 15 November, the candidacy of union leader Luis Inacio da Silva (Lula) for governor of Sao Paulo State was launched. His name was unanimously voted for during the convention of the Workers' Party, the newest Brazilian political party. Former Sao Paulo state attorney general Helio Bicudo will run for vice governor. Bicudo became well known in Brazil during the 1970's when he investigated the activities of the death squadron. He was forced into retirement because of this investigation. The Workers' Party ticket, which according to preliminary estimates could surpass 1 million votes in the elections for Sao Paulo governor, will be ratified during another meeting of the convention, scheduled for Sunday, 31 January. [Text] [PY201829 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1420 GMT 20 Jan 82]

CSO: 3001/69

TEN PERCENT EXPORT TAX ON TRADITIONAL PRODUCTS APPROVED

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 12 Dec 81 p 10 A

[Excerpt] The permanent Commission for Economic Affairs of the Legislative Assembly approved last night a bill levying a 10-percent tax on the foreign exchange differential received by exporters of traditional products, with the sole exception of the sugar producers.

The motion was supported by the Unity coalition members and opposed by those of the National Liberation Party.

The proposal is one of the changes proposed by the administration with respect to the taxes imposed by the deputies two weeks ago to provide economic support for the compensatory measures which were approved jointly with the change of the Monetary Law which changed the foreign exchange value of the colon from 8.60 colons to 20 colons for a dollar.

Humberto Vargas Carbonell (United People Party representative for San Jose), who is not a member of the commission for economic affairs, also proposed that the tax should be 10 percent and that the tax of 4.5 percent on nontraditional exports to Central America and Panama should remain in force.

The National Liberation Party members, on the other hand, supported the proposition that the tax should be 15 percent on traditional exports and 4.5 percent on exports to the isthmus, although, like the legislators of Unity and United People, they acceded to the proposal that the foreign exchange differential should be reduced by calculating it on the basis of the difference between the exchange rate for exports (at present 35.80 colons to the dollar) and the new official exchange rate (in force) of 20 colons to the dollar.

Previous Situation

Formerly the exchange rate differential was calculated on the basis of the difference between the free market rate used by the banks and the official exchange rate of 8.60 colons then prevailing.

What was approved last night by the members of the commission for economic affairs who met from 1400 to 2100 hours is practically what the administration recommended with the exception to the tax on bananas. The Office of the President proposed that

the exchange rate differential on bananas should be taxed by 3 percent but the legislators included bananas among the products paying the 10 percent tax which they levied on all foreign sales of traditional products.

The only export accorded preferential treatment was sugar.

The tax rate on each 46 kilos of sugar with the f.o.b. price at Costa Rican ports of \$15 will be 1 percent; when the price is between \$15.01 and \$18.00 it will be 3 percent; when the price is between \$21.01 and \$25.00 it will be 8 percent; when over \$25 it will be 10 percent.

Traditional products were listed as the following: coffee, bananas, leaf tobacco, untanned cattle hides and pig skins, beef, raw shrimp, logs or milled lumber, unprocessed mineral products, live pigs, cattle and horses and articles produced by enterprises with government contracts, whether they are exported by those companies or by third parties.

9204

CSO: 3010/592

MONGE AFFIRMS CARAZO OBSTRUCTS WAY OF FUTURE GOVERNMENT

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 17 Dec 81 p 10 A

[Text] Luis Alberto Monge, the National Liberation Party [PLN] presidential candidate, accused president of the republic Rodrigo Carazo of placing as many obstacles as he can in the path of the future government. Monge said to the president, "Your purpose is clear: you are doing everything possible so that the next administration will face an extremely difficult situation."

The presidential candidate made this comment in a reply he sent to the president who had asked the presidential candidates for their opinions on the export tax provisions of the Currency Devaluation Law.

Monge believes that the PLN agrees with a change in the tax so that the foreign exchange differential would be calculated not at the rate of 8.60 colons but at 20.00 colons to the dollar.

However, throughout the long message, the presidential candidate makes a number of charges against President Carazo for his behavior during the discussion of this matter.

According to Monge, the PLN considers the way the government has handled this matter a direct aggression against it. He said, "In fact, you have tried in vain to turn the opinion of Costa Rican producer groups against our party and my candidacy."

He added, "You did great harm to the producers themselves when you presented, from the rostrum of public morality which the Office of the President should be, incorrect figures and false predictions as to the tax on windfall profits as a result of the change in the exchange rate."

Monge told Carazo that his effort was in vain, "because all the producers in all fields and in all corners of the nation personally know the cause of the frightful conditions in the nation for which there is no parallel in contemporary Costa Rican history."

"The erroneous policies you have followed, your stubborn obsession in refusing to face reality and finally, your outrageous capacity for dividing the Costa Rican family have brought the nation to the edge of the abyss."

BRIEFS

LABOR MINISTER SCORES DISRUPTING--The truth is that right now there are no negotiations. There were negotiations, but the extremist leaders decided to interrupt them and to strike. Apparently, this is the result of movements aimed at disrupting order in the country because of the approach of elections or to break Costa Rica's economy. I am very concerned with what has happened. After a 35-day strike at the Standard Fruit Company, we reached an agreement and the strike ended; but immediately afterward, the railroad was paralyzed. That is, the bananas are being harvested again, but the railroad that takes the products to the docks for export has been cut. Since these labor unions are linked by the United Workers Federation [CUT], we think that this is a coordinated movement. Therefore, in some cases where there have been no previous demands or talks, a strike is simply implemented; in other cases, where an agreement is very near--such as the case of (Abdana)--the talks are broken. Apparently, the objective is to provoke unrest and chaos in the country and to disrupt order as the elections approach. [Text] [Statement by Costa Rican Labor Minister German Serrano; time and place not given--recorded] [PA200450 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Jan 82]

CSO: 3010/665

BRIEFS

FOOD WORKERS CEREMONY--Blas Roca Calderio, member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo and vice president of the Council of State, has attended a ceremony marking the beginning of the drive honoring food industry workers. The event, held at the headquarters of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC], was the first honor paid by the trade union and CTC leaders to last year's 30 most outstanding workers. [Text] [FL201607 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 20 Jan 82]

UJC MEETING--Luis Orlando Dominguez, member of the party's Central Committee and first secretary of the Union of Young Communists [UJC], has made the closing speech at the second conference of the UJC in the Youth Labor Army [EJT]. The EJT delegation to the Fourth UJC Congress was elected during the meeting held in Ciego de Avila. Making the closing speech at the meeting, Luis Orlando Dominguez praised the attitude of the combatants of the 15th callup of the general military service who belong to that institution and who voluntarily decided to remain in its ranks until finishing the tasks of the present sugar harvest. The UJC first secretary described the second UJC conference in the EJT as brilliant, profound, mature, combative and enthusiastic. He said that the FAR will always have the young people as a marvelous source to fill its ranks. He added that the EJT has shown in a special way the indissoluble union between the armed forces and the Cuban young masses. Finally, the youth leader congratulated the EJT members because you, he said, have fulfilled your commitments to the people, the party and our commander in chief. [Text] [FL131955 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Jan 82]

SALVADORAN SOLIDARITY--The Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization, AALAPSO, has issued a statement in Havana in connection with the international day of solidarity with the Salvadoran people. Each year, the statement says, the world's revolutionary, democratic and progressive movement observes the international day of solidarity with El Salvador on 22 January and renders deserved tribute to the national hero, Farabundo Marti, and the 30,000 peasants and workers killed by the dictatorship of Gen Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez during the January 1932 insurrection. The observance of this date, AALAPSO adds, acquires particular relevance this year not only for the Salvadoran masses but also for all revolutionary and anti-imperialist forces of the whole world. Half a century has passed of continuous fighting in that fraternal country against the military and proimperialist dictatorships of the moment without

the people's rebellious spirit and faith in victory ever flagging. The Salvadoran people have made many advances in their hard and long labors despite the blows inflicted by the native oligarchy, local reactionaries and their yankee masters. However, the AALAPSO document stresses, one of their most important achievements is the unity attained in revolutionary struggle, most eloquently expressed in the rise of the FMLN and the Revolutionary Democratic Front, which group the forces and organizations that are decidedly and nobly committed to the struggle and destiny of the humble and dispossessed of this Central American country. [Text] [FL191228 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Jan 82]

HART VISITS NICARAGUA--Cuba's Culture Minister Armando Hart has visited the Nicaraguan community of Solentiname accompanied by Daniel Ortega, coordinator of Nicaragua's National Reconstruction Government junta, government junta member Sergio Ramirez and Culture Minister Ernesto Cardenal. Solentiname, located on the big lake, Nicaragua, is a peasant community where poet and priest Cardenal created a large portion of his literary work and developed peasant and native painting, sculpture and literature. The community of Salentiname, where minister Cardenal used to officiate religious services of a social orientation prior to the triumph of the Sandinist revolution, was attacked and destroyed by Somoza's military forces. Cuba's Communist Party Politburo member Armando Hart is visiting Nicaragua to attend the celebration of the days of [Ruben] Dario. As part of the celebrations, 18 January, the birthday of poet Ruben Dario, was proclaimed day of cultural independence. [Text] [FL211309 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jan 82]

SOLIDARITY MESSAGE TO GUINEANS--The Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has issued a message of solidarity with the Guinean people on the 9th anniversary of the murder of Amilcar Cabral. The message, signed by MPSP President Severo Aguirre del Cristo, a member of the party's Central Committee, recalls the untiring work of the national liberation leader who placed all his strength and talent at the service of Guinea-Bissau's independence. Amilcar Cabral was assassinated by the colonialists but his ideals regarding the independence and struggle of peoples are today a reality in the former Portuguese colonies, the MPSP message concludes. [Text] [FL191754 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Jan 82]

CSO: 3010/649

BRIEFS

CLEAN ELECTIONS GUARANTEED--Santo Domingo, 21 Jan (AFP)--Dominican President Antonio Guzman reiterated today that the general elections to take place on 16 May will be "free and clean." The Social Democratic President gave no importance to the central electoral junta's recent decision to maintain the one-party multiple ballot type voting. Most of the parties wanted a single ballot that would include all the parties. "The elections will be free and clean regardless of whether the multiple or the simple ballot is used," President Guzman said. For this reason, he noted, I believe that the junta's decision is not important. What is important is that the elections are free and that they really satisfy the majority so that the country may continue on the path of representative democracy." The May elections are for choosing a new president and vice president in the executive branch, and a new parliament. The most important presidential candidates are Salvador Jorge Blanco, of the governing Dominican revolutionary party--Social Democratic--and former President Joaquin Balaguer, of the opposition's reformist party--Conservative. [Text] [PA220243 Paris AFP in Spanish 1852 GMT 21 Jan 82]

CSO: 3010/648

AD DEFINES ITSELF ANTI-MARXIST, FREE ENTERPRISE PARTISAN

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 9 Dec 81 p 2

[Text] Yesterday, leaders of the Democratic Action (AD) party that is being formed described themselves as "anti-Marxist, anti-Communist and advocates of the free enterprise system."

The aforementioned political group was invited to the luncheon held by the Union of Business Leaders (UDES) at the Camino Real Hotel, as part of its series entitled "Businessmen Vis-a-Vis the Political Parties." AD designated as speakers Drs Rene Fortin Magana, Enrique Borgo Bustamante and Ricardo Gonzalez Camacho, who were introduced by Dr Jaime Arrieta, a UDES leader.

In discussing economic freedom and private ownership, two principles upheld by AD, they explained that they are not thereby advocating a return to the past, nor does this mean that they are protecting interests of ruling individuals or sectors of the economy or production; rather, they claimed, they are of the opinion that if those two principles are upheld any state which believes in democracy will progress.

The first to speak was Fortin Magana, who expressed the view that, despite the violence existing in the country, "On the national scene, one now discerns, as if at the end of a long tunnel, a small light which could prove to be the solution to the critical situation that El Salvador is undergoing." The speaker commented on the electoral process, giving a reminder that, until a few months ago, "one heard mention only of FDR (Democratic Revolutionary Front), FAPU [United Popular Action Front], LP-28 [28 February People's Leagues], FPL [People's Liberation Forces] and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], as if all that existed here was the extreme left and the Christian Democrats." Fortin Magana said that there had been a bipolar situation until later, when other forces came into being, keeping silent and now combined in political parties to run in elections which, according to AD, are the only means of attaining power; and he repudiated the position of the rebel armed groups.

He also claimed that the Christian Democratic Party, which is currently in power as a result of a pact with the Armed Forces, will tend to disappear upon the advent of new forces. Fortin Magana said that his party, which will seek legal registration sometime this week, differs from the extreme left because the latter does not believe in the elections, and differs from PDC because the latter preaches a communitarian philosophy that is merely an ambiguity attempting to destroy constitutionally recognized traditional institutions. He explained that AD upholds representative democracy wherein the various social sectors can find a place.

He later announced some underlying principles of the party's government program which, at the present time, seeks only to be introduced in a constituent election with honest, capable individuals.

Then Dr Borgo Bustamante spoke, reinforcing the principles cited by Dr Fortin Magana, and also stating that AD "is absolutely opposed to all the state-controlled, totalitarian systems which regulate or demarcate the activity of individuals, restricting them or preventing them from free enterprise and creativity in both the social, and the political and economic realms."

In commenting on the country's reforms, Dr Borgo Bustamante said that the banking seems to have been devised more out of vengeance to destroy an oligarchy, adding: "I can prove this from what I was told by a politician a few days ago, who said that the banking reform was not advisable economically, but that it was politically."

In response to questions from the attendees, the professional man said that there was no need for nationalizing banking as it operates today, because for that purpose there was already a national banking system in existence. He remarked: "There is no purpose in having a single bank with so many windows. They should allow private banking again, so that it could compete with the national banks, and see which is better."

Dr Borgo charged that, "As a result of the nationalization, an exaggerated bureaucracy has been created, and there is a manipulation of the credit policy to the point where, before the beginning of the agricultural season, the various banks were assigned a certain number of cooperatives to which they were to give loans." The professional man explained: "It was not even stated that they had to study them."

The final speaker was Dr Gonzalez Camacho, who described the AD platform in its industrial aspect, explaining that, "In our country an immediate policy to give an impetus to industry should be adopted, because by the year 2000 El Salvador will have a population of 10 million inhabitants, according to the demographic estimates." He said: "This, added to the small expanse of territory, puts us in a critical situation, which prompts us to believe that agriculture by itself might not be sufficient to support the country's existence. This does not mean that we are underestimating the agricultural area, but it is, indeed, necessary to consider industrializing the country and to look toward foreign trade; because the development within has not brought the results which we expected, something which has also been proven by the failure of the Central American Common Market."

Dr Gonzalez Camacho concluded by saying that AD advocates "the establishment of a more just system of living in the country, to put an end to 18 years of dictatorship and 2 years of lunacy."

Regarding Elections

The audience asked some questions about electoral matters, and one of them was answered by Dr Fortin Magana, who charged that it is known that the Christian Democratic Party is promoting a dialog with FDR, and that AD is opposed to that. He said that any negotiation should be with all the representative forces, adding that, in his opinion, INR [National Revolutionary Movement] and UDN [Nationalist Democratic Union] should participate in the elections.

Dr Luis Nelson Segovia remarked that AD still maintained the need for an Electoral Register, a listing, adding that the Council should study all the systems, including the one of staining fingers, to guarantee the voting, but that the proposals of the legal and forming parties should not be rejected.

Finally, Dr Segovia stated that, in his opinion, "It is possible that there was too much haste in scheduling elections, because it is better to hold good ones in a moderate period rather than bad elections superficially."

2909

CSO: 3010/594

FUSS CRITICIZES FARM LAND LEASING DECREE

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 8 Dec 81 p 2

[Text] The Single Federation of Salvadoran Trade Unions [FUSS] is of the opinion that Decree 207, relating to the leasing of agricultural land "was issued with a demagogic intent, and not for the purpose of benefiting the interests of the people and the national economy."

The FUSS explains in a communique that the aforementioned decree stipulated that the land cultivated through the payment of ordinary rent, sharecropping, leasing with a pledge of sale and other systems would become the property of the one directly exploiting it, up to an area of 7 hectares.

The Federation claims that the provisions of Decree 207 have two fundamental flaws: One is that land can be expropriated from a medium-sized and even a small holder; the other lies in the fact that there is a consolidation of the small estate, this being one of the evils existing in El Salvador along with the large estate.

The FUSS points out that the same decree could benefit a person who is not cultivating the land directly; in other words, one who is not working it with his own hands, but is rather cultivating it with wage-earning labor. It adds that it is not lawful for an agrarian reform to benefit this type of agricultural entrepreneur.

Commenting that the decree was issued demagogically, the labor entity gives a reminder that, on the occasion when that regulation was announced, the government stated "in an irresponsible manner and with an abundance of brazenness" that it would thereby be benefiting over a million farmers which, the entity claims, is technically impossible.

It noted that the foregoing claim has been proven, because to date only 15,000 deeds to property "of a temporary nature and of dubious validity", as the FUSS stresses, have been turned over.

The Trade Union Federation goes so far as to state that some of the properties affected "were not subjected to requisitioning because they belong to high-ranking government officials or their relatives;" and they cite, among other instances, some estates owned by Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, mayor of San Salvador.

2909

CSO: 3010/594

BRIEFS

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCH--The army began a house-to-house search yesterday on the western, northern and southern sectors of San Salvador, due to reports of possible terrorist outbreaks on Friday, 22 January, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the first Communist Party in El Salvador. Most of the residents opened their doors to the authorities so that they could carry out the search, as authorized. At the same time, the army and security corps proceeded to search automobiles, pickups, trucks and buses. The passengers of the buses were asked to get off, to be searched personally and to facilitate the search of the buses. One of the officials approached yesterday in the capital said that the people have cooperated fully in the search, which helped the authorities do their work successfully. It has been reported that the search will continue in other sectors of the capital. [Excerpts] [PA210423 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 20 Jan 82 pp 3, 13]

ARMS RACE INVOLVEMENT DENIED--San Jose, 19 Jan (AFP)--Fidel Chavez Mena, Salvadoran foreign minister, stated emphatically that "Nicaragua is the only country in Central America involved in the arms race." Chavez Mena made this statement when he denied that his country is going through a similar process. AFP questioned Chavez on the change that would occur in El Salvador with the creation of the Central American Democratic Community signed today by the foreign ministers of Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica. The document condemns the arms race in Central America because it "endangers the stability of the region and, therefore, threatens peace and is an obstacle in the development of our peoples." Chavez Mena rejected the possibility of his country being involved in a similar arms process, saying that in El Salvador we are "training, perfecting and making the army more professional because of the existing problem." [Excerpt] [PA202005 Paris AFP in Spanish 2353 GMT 19 Jan 82]

CONFLICT AMONG REBELS REVEALED--Spokesmen of the 5th infantry brigade of San Vicente today reported that several documents confiscated from extremists camps destroyed in several points of that department revealed the existence of a conflict among leaders of the clandestine organizations in view of the protests voiced by their Salvadoran combatants who are abandoned to their fate by their mercenary "commanders" when the Salvadoran Army actions become too menacing for them. The conflict has resulted, it was revealed, from the complaints of the Salvadoran leaders against the "mercenaries." The documents indicate that some groups are separating to act on their own. All these documents, it was said, are being analyzed by military intelligence. [Excerpt] [PA212323 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Jan 82 p 1]

CSO: 3010/669

WHITEMAN ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

FL231415 Bridgetown CANA in English 1330 GMT 23 Dec 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 23 Dec (CANA)--Grenada's Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman has dismissed suggestions that the island's leftist government violates the rights of persons in the country.

Mr Whiteman told journalists that the New Jewel Movement (JMJ) government which came to power in a 13 March 1979 coup does not brutalise anyone but in fact has wiped out brutality and repression in Grenada. He noted that before the Grenada revolution which toppled the Eric Gairy regime there was a great deal of repression in the country in which the "Mongoose Gang," a terrorist squad linked to the deposed prime minister, went on the rampage beating people, as well as violating the rights of individuals.

Whiteman said that he himself was a victim of the brutality, as well as Rupert Bishop, the father of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, who was shot dead in 1974 at the height of civil disturbances in the country.

The Grenadian minister charged that persons who have been taken into custody following the coup against Sir Eric are being treated humanely and added that even members of the "Mongoose Gang" were surprised that "not a hair on their heads were touched."

"Our revolution has wiped out brutality of man by man, and we are very pleased about this," he said.

On the question of political detainees in Grenada, Mr Whiteman said that only a small number of people are held as detainees and that they are being treated humanely. He said that their cases are being processed as quickly as possible, noting that over 90 percent of the persons detained in the wake of the coup against Sir Eric have been released. He said, however, that of the remaining ones some have been tried and convicted. Everyone who is detained is held on the basis of some concrete act against the people or the state, he explained.

Whiteman also said that in Grenada people are free to have their own ideological positions even if that means having opposing views to the left-leaning government. He noted that the PRG was socialist-oriented and said that there are people who are what he labelled as capitalists in Grenada and that the government has no measures against them. He said that on the contrary, the government cooperates fully with them and also assists these people with a number of programmes in which they can maintain their capitalist enterprises.

CSO: 3025/1017

BISHOP STRESSES INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

FL021825 Bridgetown CANA in English 1815 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 2 Jan (CANA)--The People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) which seized power in March 1979 has been promoting a strong commitment towards the principle of industrial development compatible with the country's national interest, according to Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Mr Bishop said in his new year message that instead of pursuing the policy of industrialisation by invitation the left-leaning Grenada Government advocates a policy of industrialisation based on the greater use of the country's natural and human resources, particularly agriculture.

He said that such a strategy in 1982 and the year to come would call for a vigorous role for the public sector within the economy, as well as joint ventures with local and foreign interests and the provision of incentives and assistance to the private sector.

Mr Bishop reiterated that the Grenada Government is committed to the mixed economy model and said that the country was willing to allow both local and foreign private cooperative sectors to participate in the economy.

In this regard, he said that a draft investment code outlining the policy which would guide the role of the private sector is being circulated by the government to interested groups in the country.

Mr Bishop said that during 1982 the newly created Ministry of Industrial Development intends to begin the process of manufacturing nutmeg oil, spice products, as well as the large-scale production of high quality ice-cream and fruit juices.

He said too that the Ministry of Industrial Development has plans to open a new sheep and pig farm in the country which would give Grenada the opportunity to produce ham, bacon and sausages.

The prime minister also reaffirmed his government's opposition to imperialism, racism, fascism, colonialism and neo-colonialism and said that Grenada would continue to speak out against all forms of exploitation and oppression.

He added that Grenada remains committed to the struggle for a new international economic and information order and that the country would continue to play an active role in the various international organisations to which it has membership, such as the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement.

BRIEFS

MEDICAL AID--Over 10 tons of medical equipment, along with an ambulance and 40 hospital beds, were today handed over to the Grenada Medical Services. The gift was presented by the vice president of the Grenada-Swedish Friendship Society. The equipment will be used both at the General Hospital in St Georges and the Princess Alice Hospital in St Andrews. [FL310014 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 29 Dec 81]

CSO: 3025/1017

EGP LEADER INTERVIEWED BY 'RADIO HAVANA'

PA190417 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Interview with (Andrea Ramirez), member of the Guatemalan Poor People's Guerrilla Army by Pedro Martinez Pirez--date not given; recorded]

[Text] [Question] (Andrea), what does 19 January mean to Guatemala and to you, as a member of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army [EGP]?

[Answer] Ten years ago on 19 January, the first armed detachment of our companeros of the EGP--15 EGP companeros--entered the country through the north, in the area known as (Ixcan), in El Quiche Department. Together with another small group of urban fighters, this group took on the huge task of initiating guerrilla warfare in Guatemala. This was part of what we know now as our people's revolutionary war strategy.

[Question] What places has the EGP reached in these 10 years and how many guerrilla fronts are there?

[Answer] We have managed to establish six guerrilla fronts already. They are located in the country's northwest, the central region, the Guatemala City area and the southern coast. And we can add with much pleasure, Companero Pedro, that we are already in a position to announce, on this 10th anniversary, the beginning of operations, though not as a front, in the country's eastern area.

[Question] What are the present EGP fronts called?

[Answer] The first front was the Ho Chi Minh front; then the (Luis Porciono Lima) and Otto Rene Castillo fronts emerged and later on the Commander Ernesto Guevara front, the Marco Antonio Yon Sosa front and finally, on 19 July of last year, in homage to the Sandinist revolution, the Augusto Cesar Sandino front.

[Question] What role do the Indians and the Guatemalan peasants play in the guerrilla movement?

[Answer] They play a decisive role. This is, in fact, one of the aspects embodied in our initial concepts. We started with the idea that one of the primary moving forces of our revolution is the working class and particularly the Indian peasants. In the case of Guatemala, the onus of production and the creation of wealth is borne on the shoulders of the Guatemalan Indian peasants.

[Question] (Andrea), there are three other revolutionary organizations in Guatemala. We would like to know what progress has been made by Guatemala's four political-military revolutionary organizations in their talks, contacts and work toward unity.

[Answer] On this anniversary especially, we must not forget that all of our aspirations and plans, when we entered the country 10 years ago, did not start from scratch. To them must be added the experience of other organizations that, like ours, had emerged during the previous decade. We can speak at this moment of a process of unification that is making firm strides and we can say that our people are impatiently waiting for it. We can tell you, Pedro, that the unity of the Guatemalan revolutionary movement is a reality and is growing more tangible every day.

[Question] (Andrea), as in El Salvador, the genocidal Guatemalan regime has announced elections for March. How do you characterize these elections?

[Answer] First of all, we think that this electoral process caters only to the interests of the rich and to Yankee imperialism. The interests of the popular sectors are not taken into account at all. All of the candidates that have been nominated this time are connected, in one way or another, with the plundering and killing of our people. All of the candidates are well-known anticommunist militants and reactionaries and all of them plan on leaning on the same genocidal army. Their main purpose is to exterminate our people and to stop the revolutionary movement somehow.

[Question] (Andrea), 10 years after the EGP's creation, can you briefly assess the struggle of this Guatemalan political-military organization?

[Answer] I think we can speak of three fundamental aspects. First is the contribution of the strategic line for the people's revolutionary war, which, as I said before, did not start from scratch but resulted from the contribution of many other companeros, who also (?lost) their lives. However, this is already being implemented, with the participation of all of the revolutionary organizations.

Another very important aspect is the fact that under this concept of unity--which has also been implemented--the fundamental role of the Guatemalan Indians has been taken into account. We can state that this is one of the fundamental contributions of the Guatemalan revolution in Latin America--the incorporation of the Indians into the people's war and the promotion of guerrilla methods of struggle by them in an effort to achieve their liberation.

The third aspect to which I referred is that of having changed the situation, because it was very difficult for the Guatemalan revolutionary movement to resume the armed struggle in Guatemala during that decade. And we must say here, Pedro, that we did not do so alone. Our sister revolutionary organizations contributed, though we did play a role.

CSO: 3010/665

SUGAR PRODUCERS DEMAND HIGHER CONSUMER PRICES

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Dec 81 p 2

[Text] Tegucigalpa--According to a report from Gilberto Goldstein, representative of the country's sugar-producing sector, the nation's four leading sugar-mills have suffered a loss to date estimated at 40 million lempiras.

He declared that the government of the republic will definitely have to authorize an increase in the current price of sugar, because the per pound production cost is 45 centavos and the sales price is 37 centavos. He remarked: "If the price of sugar in any country of the world is analyzed, it will be noted that Honduras has one of the lowest."

He added that the facts about the price of sugar production have been proven to both the cane producers and the government; and therefore a petition has been submitted to the Commission on Decree 91 for the pertinent hike. He said: "Everyone must understand that, if we have a certain production price, we cannot sell the product at a lower price, because we would finally go bankrupt."

Directly dependent on the sugar industry are 15,000 workers who, with their families, total some 70,000 Hondurans, who are threatened with being jobless if the current prices persist, because four of the leading sugar-mills are virtually on the brink of bankruptcy.

When asked whether the increase in the price of sugar is imminent, Goldstein replied that, if the increase does not take place, the sugar-mills will go bankrupt, because the present price is unrealistic and illogical; and that the labor sector and house-
-wives must understand that this hike is not a gift to the sugar manufacturers, but that the purchaser will be paying a fair price for the product.

He noted that the sugar industry is in such bad straits that, last week, some of the companies could not make the payroll, as in the case of ACENSA, which was unable to pay its personnel in November. He said: "The government must take cognizance and act quickly, or it will have four bankrupt sugar-mills."

Losses

He reported that the four sugar-mills have registered losses amounting to 40 million lempiras. The capital stock of the companies has lost over 70 percent in most

instances, and the projection on losses for the present sugar harvest is 22 million lempiras.

Goldstein reiterated that, insofar as "the future of the country's sugar industry is concerned, we must be realistic, because the product has a cost, and it must be paid." He said: "Trying to consume it for less than it is worth is illogical."

He added that the only country where sugar can be cheap is one in which the state subsidizes it, but Honduras is a poor country, and it is virtually impossible to talk about subsidies.

In conclusion, he said that the hike in sugar prices is the only solution for saving that branch of industry; and remarked, finally: "The sugar industry is not asking to be allowed to make profits; we are asking not to be allowed to die."

2909

CSO: 3010/594

BRIEFS

PAZ GARCIA TO BE ARMY ADVISER--Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia will become adviser to the armed forces headquarters. This is a report published by the newspaper LA PRENSA of San Pedro Sula. The report from Tegucigalpa states: Honduran President Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia will become special adviser to the armed forces headquarters beginning in February. A reliable armed forces source said that the armed forces officers have convinced General Paz Garcia not to request his retirement from the army, as is his desire. Moreover, the source said that President Paz Garcia does not yet have the years of service necessary for his retirement. He has served 27 of the 30 years needed for retirement. The source added that the Armed Forces Supreme Council is satisfied with the work carried out by its chief; therefore, it wants him to actively continue in the army by providing his valuable advice to the armed forces, considering that he is the officer who has received the most military and civilian recognition of his merits. [Text] [PA161453 Tegucigalpa Voz De Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 15 Jan 82]

CSO: 3010/665

SEAGA SAYS HE USES 'HEAD' RATHER THAN 'HEART'

FL131701 Bridgetown CANA in English 1649 GMT 13 Jan 82

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, 13 Jan (CANA)--Jamaica wants to be a moderating influence, not a militant trail-blazer, in global affairs, says Prime Minister Edward Seaga as he contrasts the policies and style of his administration with those of Michael Manley, the man he defeated at general elections late 1980. Manley followed the "heart" and failed. Seaga intends to use his "head" to succeed in a country which came close to the point of economic collapse during the decade of the 1970's.

The prime minister's views have come in a cover story in the current issue of BAJAN magazine, which has named him its "West Indian Man of the Year 1981." Seaga believes that one sure way of avoiding dangerous political pitfalls as well as economic and social chaos, is never to allow the "heart" to rule the "head."

That has been for him a tested formula for success at the personal level, and he feels that it was precisely because the "heart" held sway that the Manley government was such a dismal failure, creating what Seaga says was one of the bleakest periods in the island's economic history.

The magazine reports: "The styles of Seaga and the man he succeeded are worlds apart. He is so intense that he sometimes forgets to smile. Mainly he appears to be a cold, calculating financial genius and an enigma to most people.

"Manley on the other hand is dashing and articulate, warm and friendly, charismatic and, as his admirers would say, all "heart."

"Whereas Manley's personal magnetism drew people towards him, his political policies, in Seaga's view, reflected more "heart" than "head" and there was no extricating his administration from the bog of its own creation," the article said.

This is what the prime minister says of the fascinating contrast, "The fact of the matter is that one cannot claim to have "heart" if the end result of what you destroy is the standard of living of the people.

"We lost 57 percent of our standard of living over the last 8 years by a government that claimed it had the interests of the people at heart, but because they didn't have the "head" to determine how to satisfy the interests of the people,

they ended up doing something that was entirely in the wrong direction to that in which they themselves wanted to go.

"So, even if you have "heart," you must start with your "head" because your heart can lead you in the wrong direction. Your head never will, if you use your head wisely."

Seaga explains that his intimate knowledge of the sociology of Jamaica has come from living among the people while a student. That background understanding has been the basis of "my success in political life and in the planning that enables me to formulate the kind of plans with the "head" that also helps to satisfy the "heart."

Seaga says he likes to focus on both the problem and the solution at the same time, and he is convinced that the disparities which exist in Jamaica cannot be eliminated by a "pulling down" process. "My objective is the same as the other parties that seek to, in the final analysis, improve the lot of the people and to narrow the gap between the haves and havenots. But in order to do that, you must first generate the revenues which will then enable the government to have the resources to do the things which can narrow the gap.

"You do not generate revenue by a "pulling down process." You reduce revenue, as the last Government of Jamaica found to their cost."

In foreign policy, he rejects the vanguard image which Manley had carved out for the country on the international stage, and says instead that the "head" dictates one of moderation. "We do not believe in high profiles, for the very simple reason that we are at the centre of the wheel, the spokes of which radiate out into many areas of relationships and influences that we have.

"We are part of the Commonwealth in one direction. Regionally, we are part of Latin America. We are within that part of the Caribbean which is CARICOM. We are within the Western Hemisphere, with our trading and financial flows that have been developed.

"We have very strong links culturally and historically with Africa and even other areas, too. All these radiating spokes and vital interests...are such that a country at that focal position has to carry the kind of foreign policy that retains its friends while building and finding new friends.

"You can't do that by taking high policy profiles in one direction which burns bridges in the other. So what we have been doing is continuing to build a solid reputation as one of the countries to which in any conference you can look to help find solutions, rather than advocate positions."

CSO: 3025/1017

SEAGA REPORTS LOSS OF PROFESSIONALS TO U.S.

FL182335 Bridgetown CANA in English 2120 GMT 18 Jan 82

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 18 Jan (CANA)--More than 8,000 Jamaican professionals--managers, administrators and technical personnel emigrated to the United States and joined its labour force between 1977 and 1980, Prime Minister Edward Seaga has reported. This was more than 50 percent of the amount of people trained by institutions of education here over the period, Mr Seaga said in a speech to members of the board of the American computer company, Control Data, in the north coast town of Ocho Rios.

Additionally, Jamaica also lost 7,700 semi-skilled workers to the United States over the period, Mr Seaga said.

A large number of middle class professionals left during the socialist administration of ex-Prime Minister Manley, which lost power in 1980.

Mr Seaga spoke against the backdrop of Jamaica's need to provide professionals urgently, and to put in place a long-term programme to develop trained personnel to ensure the recovery and maintenance of the Jamaican economy.

Emphasising the effect of the emigration of professionals, Mr Seaga disclosed that a 1980 survey taken in the private sector had shown that there was an 87 percent vacancy within the top managerial, professional and technical levels.

Within the public sector the vacancy in similar areas was between 33 and 50 percent, Mr Seaga said.

The prime minister indicated that emigration of professionals had cost the country heavily in direct financial terms, noting that the training of the "migrant" professionals had cost an estimated \$217 million (one JCA dollar; 56 cents U.S.).

The damage to the Jamaican economy would be more appreciated when it was considered that U.S. aid to the country over the period was \$207 million.

Mr Seaga also disclosed that in the 10-year period up to 1980 150,000 people left the country, 46 percent leaving the labour force.

Unemployment in Jamaica over the period has generally been more than 20 percent.

CSO: 3025/1017

JNEC REPORTS INCREASE IN 1981 EXPORTS

FL061320 Bridgetown CANA in English 1135 GMT 6 Jan 82

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 6 Jan (CANA)--Jamaica's worldwide exports of a long list of selected items totaled 115 million for the January-October 1981 period, representing a 15.9 percent increase over the same period in 1980, the Jamaica National Export Corporation (JNEC) has reported. The period encompasses most of the first year of the new Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) government.

Exports of food increased 26.8 percent, alcoholic beverages, 12.9 percent, and tobacco products, 3.9 percent. Peter King, executive director of JNEC, said that exports of processed food soared 66.7 percent and helped account for the strong increase in the overall food sector.

Food exports to nations in the Caribbean Common Market (CARICOM), in particular, recorded strong increases in 1981. Hugh L. Shearer, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs and trade, noted that January-November 1981 exports totalled \$7.35 million (one JCA dollar; 56 cents U.S.), a 173.6 percent increase over the period for 1980.

Mr Shearer said that Jamaica must increase its exports to North America and Canada the same way it has done to CARICOM if the country is to achieve economic recovery.

The total exports to CARICOM from January to November amounted to \$60.8 million, representing a 28.5 percent increase over the previous year's amount. In November 1981 alone, total exports to CARICOM increased by 93.7 percent over November 1980. The greatest amount of exports to a CARICOM country was to Trinidad and Tobago, which totalled \$35.8 million, representing a 17 percent increase over the January-November 1980 period.

Mr King noted that in the category comprising food, alcoholic beverages, floriculture, furniture, garments, and tobacco products, total export sales for the 10-month period were 16.6 percent above projections in Jamaica's national export plan.

In a second category of products, which includes chemicals, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, footwear, electrical appliances, paper products, petroleum products, and building products, exports increased by 17.7 percent and met 79.9 percent of the export plan for the period.

Mr King said that the figures reveal that most manufacturers were giving more attention to CARICOM at the expense of their other markets. While recognizing the importance of the CARICOM market, he said, the export development policy stresses the expansion of exports to nations outside CARICOM. Any decrease of exports to these nations, he suggested, indicates that more resources need to be allocated to assist manufacturers in servicing the hard currency markets.

"Overall," he said, the performance of our exports for the period under review is very encouraging.

A further increase in exports is anticipated as a result of extensive Jamaican trade missions during 1981 to the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Germany. In addition, trips by Prime Minister Edward Seaga were made to Australia, Korea, Japan and Venezuela, among other countries, to continue to bolster the private investment sector of Jamaica's economy.

In other indications of Jamaica's economic vitality, trading has begun on the Jamaican stock exchange, which had been dormant during the previous administration.

CSO: 3025/1017

1981 BAUXITE SALES DECREASED

FL182340 Bridgetown CANA in English 2204 GMT 18 Jan 82

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 18 Jan (CANA)--Jamaica's bauxite sales last year fell by an estimated 800,000 tonnes, but alumina exports increased by 100,000 tonnes, junior mining minister, Basil Buck, said.

In a weekend speech at the north coast town of Ocho Rios, Mr Buck said that bauxite exports during the 1981 was an estimated 5.2 million tonnes, compared with six million tonnes in the previous year.

However, the export of alumina rose from 2.4 million tonnes to 2.5 million tonnes.

Total bauxite production was officially estimated at 11.5 million tonnes, compared with just under 12 million tonnes in 1980.

Mr Buck said that production this year would not be better, but he expressed confidence over a revival in the industry.

Jamaica is hit by the down-turn of the world aluminium market.

Mr Buck called on bauxite and alumina workers to produce the highest level of output possible, thereby putting the country in a position to take advantage of the situation whenever there is an upturn in market conditions.

The JAMALCO (Jamaica Aluminium Company) allumina plant has been closed for nearly 2 weeks following a walkout by unionised employees over the delay in negotiating a new work contract. Deputy prime minister, Hugh Shearer, has got industry-wide negotiations going again, but JAMALCO has not re-opened the plant and is seeking an assurance that there would be no further work stoppages.

Mr Buck said that strikes and shut-downs were not in the national interest. He added that government wanted to get a speedy settlement of the wages issue.

CSO: 3025/1017

BRIEFS

ASSISTANCE FOR COFFEE GROWERS--Kingston, Jamaica, 26 Dec (CANA)--Junior Finance Minister St Claire Shirley has announced that the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) is to make a \$14 million loan to coffee farmers in an effort to increase production. Coffee growers in the Blue Mountains area will receive \$1,400 per acre to establish the crop and an additional \$450, 550 and 600 per acre over a 3-year period for maintenance purposes. Growers in the lowlands will receive \$800 per acre to establish the crop and an additional \$350, 400 and 450 per year for maintenance purposes. Shirley also announced that Japanese firms have shown an interest in joint ventures for processing the coffee. [FL281545 Bridgetown CANA in English 1949 GMT 26 Dec 81]

AUSTRALIAN ENVOY, CREDIT--Australia has extended a line of credit of 2.04 million Jamaican dollars to Jamaica. Terms of the credit will be 180 days at normal commercial rate, a news release from the Australian High Commission said yesterday. The line of credit will be administered by Jamaica's Trade Administrator's Department. Products which may be imported under the line of credit include motor vehicles and agricultural spare parts, raw materials for the manufacturing and food-processing industries, and essential food items. It was also announced that a new high commissioner to Jamaica has been appointed. He is Mr R.E. Little, who succeeds Mr G.N. Bilney. Mr Little will take up his new appointment in January. [FL261850 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 22 Dec 81 p 1]

EXPORTS TO CARICOM--Deputy Prime Minister Hugh Shearer announced yesterday that Jamaica's exports to the Caribbean Common Market [CARICOM] between January and November 1981 totaled \$60.7 million, a 28.5 percent increase over the same period in 1980. He also said that in November alone the country's exports had increased by approximately 93.74 percent over November 1980. The main increase in export income was in the food sector, which increased by \$4.7 million. [FL241331 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Dec 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/1017

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT REPORTS 1981 ACTIVITY

PA201701 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Jan 82

[Text] Economic activity in Nicaragua has been improving, as shown by the final figures for 1981 provided by the minister president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua. The country recorded a slightly smaller economic growth rate than in 1980. In figures this means 7 percent of the gross national product. In 1980, however, the growth rate was slightly more than 10 percent.

In a press conference today, Alfredo Cesar Aguirre said that Nicaragua reduced its trade balance deficit by \$50 million. In 1980 that deficit was \$360 million. In 1981 it was only slightly more than \$300 million.

Regarding the country's economic growth rate, he said that the 7 percent achieved in 1981 demonstrates Nicaragua's economic stability within Central America. Such growth rates are not evident in other countries of the area.

Alfredo Cesar Aguirre explained that in 1982 imports will continue with priority status, mainly aimed at input for agricultural production; that the problems of a parallel market are being studied; and that in 3 more weeks they will have an answer for businessmen.

Aguirre gave figures on credit increases provided by the financial system for producers, totalling over 2.3 billion cordobas. The minister president of the Central Bank added that the bank interests rates were kept under those of other countries, thereby counteracting inflation.

Overall, he said, the economic emergency measures had excellent results and kept the country's economy afloat.

This past week we saw the latest act of U.S. economic aggression against Nicaraguan interests. At the IDB, U.S. representatives vetoed a \$500,000 loan to Nicaragua for financing small producers in Juigalpa, Chontales Department. Alfredo Cesar Aguirre also reported on this during today's press conference. The minister president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua said that the loan application made to the IDB fulfilled the requirement that the prelacy [prelatura] of Juigalpa oversee the use of the loan money.

The United States, however, refused to approve the loan, which would have been drawn from a special fund. It argued that it did not agree with the way Nicaragua handled its economic policy and that, in any case, not much money was available.

Cesar Aguirre said that this was another example of harassment against Nicaragua.

PSC'S MONTALVAN DENIES BALTODANO ACCUSATIONS

PA151240 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Jan 82

[Text] We have a brief statement from Wilfredo Montalvan, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party [PSD] of Nicaragua. Montalvan rejects the charges that William Baltodano made against him during the news conference he held night before last at the Interior Ministry. Let's hear some of Montalvan's remarks:

[Begin recording] I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to be on the air in your widely heard newscast to emphatically reject the charges made against me by Mr William Baltodano, whom I don't know and have never met. [Words indistinct] I have never held any meeting, in or out of the country, with the so-called UDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Union] or with either Fernando or Edmundo Chamorro Rapacciolli.

The last time I had the opportunity to talk with Edmundo Chamorro was 4 months before the triumph of the revolution of 19 July 1979.

Regarding Fernando Chamorro Rapacciolli, our contact with him was prior to the time he made the decision to go into exile in Costa Rica [words indistinct].

The attitude of the Sandinist authorities is worrisome because we have been noticing that for some time they have been trying to make our bed, as the saying goes. They intend to implicate me in violent, war-type activities with which we don't agree since the civic line of the PSD and my own political history have been characterized by civic struggles against injustice and for the rights and liberty of our people.

Therefore, the fact that the statement made by this Mr Baltodano took place only 2 days after the Democratic Coordination Board's extraordinary success in preparing the rally in honor of the anniversary of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro [words indistinct] is a source of concern. [End recording]

CSO: 3010/666

TELCOR OFFICIAL REPORTS VIOLATION OF MAIL ABROAD

PA220111 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Jan 82

[Text] This morning, (Rafael Valdez Rodriguez), in charge of the Postal and Telegraph Office of the National Communications and Postal Directorate [TELCOR], talked to newsmen at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport in order to explain to the Nicaraguan people the case of the violations to the mail that comes to the country.

He said that the mail is being violated abroad and that employees of that office are not committing the abuses of irresponsibly opening the mail as it has been said.

(Valdez Rodriguez) stressed that most violations come from international postal offices in the United States.

We interviewed him so that he could tell us about the number of violations, the complaints and the way TELCOR is handling this in order to define responsibilities.

[Begin recording] [Valdez Rodriguez] The way the system works is the following: At this office we receive and deliver the mail that comes from abroad. Therefore, we can check if it is entering violated, if something is missing or for any other anomalies. We were unable to detect this before because we did not have an official directly working here at the airport. At the same time, we dispatch the mail that is going abroad. We personally handle the mail that is going on the planes. We kept receiving mail that had things missing, opened letters. However, we were unable to determine if they were being violated here in Nicaragua or if they were coming that way from abroad. So now we are trying to determine it and we are succeeding at it.

[Question] Which was the latest violation in the mail that you have found?

[Answer] Well, it was in a shipment received at 1630 on 19 January. We received 137 packages from Miami in a flight that stopped in Guatemala. Four packages were missing and many letters had been violated. Most letters were postmarked 9 September 1981. In other words, they were more or less 5 months late.

[Question] What has TELCOR done about this?

[Answer] We are preparing the necessary documents to submit our claim to the postal office in Miami which is mostly responsible for this shipment. This office will have to assume the responsibility for any claims for missing documents, certificates, violations and so forth.

[Question] What about the claims?

[Answer] By November we were receiving approximately an average of 300 claims, but this figure has substantially dropped in December and January, by more than (?100 percent). In other words, the present claims amount to three or four per day in comparison to November when we received an average of 300 per month more or less. [As heard]

CSO: 3010/666

BRIEFS

CDS MEMBERS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE ARRESTS--Revolutionary vigilants have the authority and may intervene in a crime by arresting any suspect. Sandinist police commanders are engaged in intensive activities in the neighborhoods of Managua and across the nation. They are in direct contact with the Sandinist Defense Committees [CDS]. Yesterday afternoon, Capt Roger Cabezas, deputy chief of the Sandinist police, talked at length with CDS coordinators in the (San Judas) and (Altagracia) neighborhoods. During a "Face the People"-type conversation, Capt Roger Cabezas stressed the duty of each revolutionary regarding vigilance. We must carry out this duty 24 hours a day, he said. In order to carry out the task of revolutionary vigilance, we must be alert at work, at study and everywhere, in order to protect the interests of our revolution and defend the revolution from those who wish to destroy it, he said. Dr (Nicasio Arguello), police procedures judge [juez de procesamiento policial] explained to the CDS coordinators how the armed forces, the police and the revolutionary people can be effective in the apprehension and prosecution of criminals, antisocials and others. [Text] [PA182026 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Jan 82]

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ELEMENTS SUMMONED--All those mentioned in connection with the counterrevolutionaries' plot will be summoned by the State's Security Office, Lenin Cerna, commander in chief of that office, announced at a news conference. At the outset of these investigations, the Social Democratic Party secretary general was summoned yesterday to the State's Security Office. The official in question has been mentioned in connection with counterrevolutionary elements. According to Commander Cerna, Alfonso Robelo will also be summoned to explain about the plot prepared by the counterrevolution. It is a fact that all the leaders of the democratic political parties will be summoned by the State's Security Office, it has been commented. [Text] [PA152251 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jan 82]

CUBANS TO HELP IN HARVEST--Some 30 members of the Evangelical Church, including pastors, have joined the voluntary work that is being carried out at the Benjamin Zeledon sugar mill. Several persons interviewed said that this activity represents a specific response to the demand for support that the revolutionary process made in order to lay the groundwork for (?stability) in the year of unity in the face of aggression. This is being done because they believe that the church should not only mean solemnity of faith and prayer. It was said that lifting up production is one of many tasks that the pastors have in the country within the framework of their role within the revolutionary process. It was added that the Evangelical Church believes in the revolution and for this reason it decided to participate in the harvest. According to reports, a delegation of 20 Cuban Evangelical pastors will arrive in the country within the next few days to participate in the sugar cane harvest. [Excerpt] [PA220056 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Jan 82]

HUGO SPADAFORA ADVOCATES NATIONAL UNITY POLICY

PA191731 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Jan 82 p 1-A

[Text] Dr Hugo Spadafora, controversial political leader and guerrillas leader who, during the last few days has caused some commotion, came to LA PRENSA last night at the invitation of this newspaper's director.

"My visit to this newspaper does not mean that I am playing into the hands of the opposition or that I have plans to join the opposition," Spadafora stressed. He said that his visit was a demonstration of what "a national unity policy" is.

Yesterday morning as Dr Spadafora, member of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], made serious accusations against Ltc Manuel Antonio Noriega on Radio Continent, the station went off the air.

Spadafora said that "repression as a political instrument must cease." He voiced his disagreement with actions being carried out by the Chief of Security Manuel A. Noriega.

Dr Spadafora said that he is being intimidated, and that the information given on him is being manipulated so as to "ridicule my role in Nicaragua."

Dr Spadafora led the Victoriano Lorenzo battalion that fought against the Somozist tyranny in Nicaragua.

In speaking of the country's present political situation Spadafora said that "a policy of national unity is needed in view of the violence that is at our doorstep and which is about to explode in Panama, and in view of economic problems and differences with the United States caused by the treaty."

Speaking of the National Guard's participation in political activities and referring to the repression and corruption, the guerrilla leader said, "I believe that we have an honest man leading the National Guard and that his responsibility is to clear up these matters."

"If the National Guard wants its participation in political activities to have credibility, then it must have moral authority" Spadafora said.

When LA PRENSA asked if he was developing a strategy to promote a military candidate, Spadafora said, "No one is pushing me. If some one were pushing me I would not deserve their respect."

"I said it in 1979 and I repeat: A government of national unity is needed," Spadafora said. Spadafora mentioned the theory that upon analyzing Panamanian history one would find that this formula has been correct in the midst of the unsettled political situations.

"The National Guard, the Panamenist Party, the Liberal Party and all the other political parties in the country must confer," Spadafora said.

CSO: 3010/668

UNIONS OPPOSE NEW WAGE SCALE FOR CANAL WORKERS

PA201830 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 20 Jan 82 p 5

[Excerpts] Three powerful organizations of the Panama Canal unions voiced their support for the Panamanian members of the Panama Canal Commission. This is, without a doubt, a new step toward achieving specific goals at the labor level.

This support and appreciation for it were announced yesterday morning during a press conference offered by the coalition made up of the National Maritime Union, International Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots, and the so-called Metal Trade Council. On several occasions the Metal Trade Council has opposed the return of the canal administration to the Republic of Panama.

In short, the organizations praised the Panamanian commissioners "for their strong and constant resistance against those who deny the Panamanian workers their well-earned salary for services they have legally rendered." We exhort them and the Panamanian Government to continue thos praiseworthy attitude and offer them, as of now, our support in ending this wage discrimination." [Quotemarks as published]

The detailed reports on the new wage system suggested to replace the system existing since the treaties went into effect in the canal area still contain serious errors and injustices. The "elimination" contemplated is far from being a real and complete replacement to the established "Panama Canal area wage base," especially since its provisions cause most Panamanians and U.S. citizens hired locally since October 1979 to start at lower grades.

"Our unions call the attention to the amoral, inhuman and exploiting implications of this so-called 'replacement' wage scale in the Panama Canal area."

CSO: 3010/668

BRIEFS

COLUMN WARNS AGAINST AGITATORS--Professional agitators, who follow the Moscow-Cuba line, are trying to promote division among the people of Bocas del Toro. They are using Marxist-Leninist slogans and guildeines. These agitators are the ones behind a pamphlet entitled "Tortuguero." Watch out! Beware of these individuals.
[Text] [PA131620 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 11 Jan 82 p 5]

CSO: 3010/668

PRF ANSWERS COLORADO PARTY SENATOR

PY122224 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 22 Dec 81 p 7

[Text] The executive committee of the PRF [Febrerista Revolutionary Party] has issued a declaration signed by party secretary general Juan Granada and party president Alarico Quinonez.

In its first part, the declaration states the following: "In the face of the statement made by [Colorado Party Senator Ezequiel] Gonzalez Alsina during the last senate meeting when he said that the PRF would be welcome in congress provided that it observes electoral rules and provided that it is elected by the people, we feel that it is necessary to clarify that the PRF will not review its political position while no changes are made in the prevailing conditions, which prevent the enforcement of the law and of a republican regime."

The declaration goes on to say that "the electoral rules the senator is referring to are precisely those imposed by the government's party. These rules do not include in their text either principles, regulations or prescripts leading to fair electoral contests, without fraud. But these faulty rules are not the only reason why the PRF does not participate in the congressional game; there is also the lack of a legal system and of institutional guarantees for the full exercise of the rights proclaimed by the constitution."

"Furthermore, the curfew is still in force all over the country based on a plain and capricious discretionary interpretation and it is renewed every 3 months."

"If journalists are jailed and kept incommunicado without warrant, if the newspaper EL PUEBLO is closed; if the chairman of the Christian Democratic Party is banished; and if thousands of exiles are not allowed to return to their fatherland, we must conclude that the democracy advocated by the government's spokesmen is not the one PRF supports."

CSO: 3010/662

BRIEFS

ARMED FORCES ASSIGNMENTS--The following armed forces officers were sworn in yesterday: Col Juan de Dios Garbett, as new 4th Infantry Division commander stationed in Concepcion, replacing Gen Cesar Machuca Vargas, the new armed forces logistics commander; Col Miguel Angel Berino, as new 2d Infantry Division commander; Brig Gen Bernardino Valoy Arza, as chief of staff of the II Army Corps; Brig Gen Luis Esteban Olmedo Ortiz, as new commander of the Mariscal Lopez Military School; Naval Capt Carlos Roig Trujillo, as new commander of the fleet; Capt Eduardo Gonzalez Petit, as navy chief of staff; Capt Jose Ramon Ocampos Alfaro, as new commander of the Naval Air Force. [PY160116 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 30 Dec 81 p 4 PY]

NAVY ASSIGNMENTS--The following navy officers were sworn in yesterday: Capt Luis Bernardo Davalos Bogado, as new River Defense Corps commander; Capt Carlos Cubas Vildosola, as new head of the Department of Supplies and Shipyards; Capt Pedro Centurion, as new director of the Navy Engineering Service. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 5 Jan 82 p 11 PY]

ARMY, NAVY ASSIGNMENTS--It has been reported that the following chiefs were sworn in the last few hours: Col Jose Roa Benitez, as new 5th Infantry Division commander; Cdr Oscar Antonio Brizuela Perdomo as new ports prefect; Capt Raul Fernandez Coronel as new director of the Department of Hydrography and Navigation; Capt Bernave Dejesus Herebia as new director of the Department of Naval Registry and Publications. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 31 Dec 81 p 16 PY]

CAPITAL POLICE PROMOTIONS--The executive branch has decreed the promotion of the following police officers to the rank of general police inspector [comisario general de orden publico]: Tomas Perez Arguello, Fortunato Gaona, Hilarion Gonzalez, Perfecto Garay, Ramon Albino Fernandez, Adrian Samaniego, Julio Ernesto Paredes Ledesma, Abdulio Arguello Britez, Ezequiel Piris Desvars, Atilano Paredes Sosa, Juan Angel Viana Ayala, and Hermenegildo Adlan. [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 2 Jan 82 [no page given] 82 PY]

NEW STATE COUNCIL MEMBER--The executive branch has issued decree No 30,055 appointing Carlos Romero Pereira as state councillor representing the National Agricultural Society. He replaces Jose Dario Radice. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 8 Jan 82 p 5 PY]

STATE COUNCIL PRESIDENT--The State Council held its first 1982 session yesterday and elected Tomas Romero Pereira as council's president and Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro as vice president. [Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 8 Jan 82 p 4 PY]

PRF ELECTS OFFICERS--The following Febrerista Revolutionary Party members were assigned posts yesterday on the party's National Executive Committee: Juan G. Granada as secretary general; Reinaldo Ferreira Aguino as finance secretary; Raul Chenu Rivarola as head of the organization department; Tomas Martinez Varela as head of the rural action department; Alfredo Carrillo as head of the orientation and press department; Venancio Loncharich as head of the public relations department; Oscar Acuna Torres, as head of the social assistance Department. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 12 Dec 81 p 11 PY]

NEW FM STATION--ZPV 80 Yacyreta FM stereo is the new FM radio station which started operating a few days ago on 98.6 MHZ, with 60,000 watt equipment and a 160 meter high antenna. The new station operates from 0500 to 0100. Antolin Leguizamon is the director of the new radio station. [PY211231 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 8 Jan 82 p 15 PY]

HONORARY FRENCH CONSULATE--A decree issued by the executive branch has given the approval for the opening of a French honorary consulate in Concepcion to be run by Pedro Russo Squirich, who will be sworn in during a ceremony to be presided over by the French Ambassador. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Jan 82 p 25 PY]

ARMY, NAVY OFFICERS CONFIRMED--The executive branch today issued a decree confirming the following officers in their posts: Maj Gen Pedro R. Florentin, II Corps commander; Maj Gen Eduardo Sanchez, III Corps commander; Maj Gen Guillermo V. Clebsch, chief of the presidential military household; Brig Gen Victor Manuel Florentin, 3d Infantry Division commander; Brig Gen Jose Roa Benitez, 5th Infantry Division commander; Brig Gen Ricardo Bogado, 6th Infantry Division commander; Brig Gen Rogelio Bartolome Argana, chief of staff of the combat support command; Rear Adm Eduardo Gonzalez Petit, navy chief of staff; Brig Gen Emelio Bernal, commander of the infantry division [as published]; Brig Gen Ramon Humberto Garcete, military schools command chief of staff; Brig Gen Miguel Angel Berino, 2d Infantry Division commander; Brig Gen Juan de Dios Garbett, 4th Infantry Division commander; Brig Gen Alberto Anibal Nissa, 6th Infantry Division commander; Brig Gen Juan M. Campos Guillen, 8th Infantry Division commander; Brig Gen Francisco Sanchez Gonzalez, I Corps chief of staff. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 15 Jan 82 p 7 PY]

BRIDGE HIGHWAY CONTRACT AWARDED--The National Economic Coordination Council yesterday awarded the contract for the construction of a 1,1,303 meter [figure as printed] bridge over the Paraguay River and a 148.5 km highway joining Puerto Militar and Pozo Colorado to the "Concord Skanska South African Consortium." The project will be financed by Sweden's "Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken," which will grant a \$17,850,000 loan to be returned in 13 years with a 3-year grace period; by South Africa's "Industrial Development Corporation," which will grant a 17,555,000 rand (\$17,850,000) loan to be returned in 13 years with a 4-year grace period; and by London's "Libra Bank," which will grant a \$17,000 loan to be returned in 8 years with a libor [London interbank offer rate] interest plus a 1 1/8 percent rate. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 19 Jan 82 p 10 PY]

OIL PROSPECTING--When their respective contracts are approved, Bryant Murphy International, Inc. and Sundance Resources Paraguay, Inc. will start prospecting and exploiting hydrocarbons in some areas of the eastern region. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 5 Jan 82 p 15 PY]

COST OF LIVING--Central Bank President Cesar Romeo Acosta reported that the 1981 inflation rate was 13 percent. The 1980 inflation rate was 22.4 percent. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 13 Jan 82 p 9 PY]

BALANCE OF TRADE--The Central Bank reported a \$180 million deficit in the balance of trade for the first 11 months of 1981. According to the bank, Argentina and Brazil are Paraguay's main commercial partners. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 10 Jan 82 Economic Supplement p 6 PY]

FISCAL DEFICIT--According to the financial report issued by the National Financial Comptroller's Office of the Finance Ministry, an 11,785,000,000 guaranie fiscal deficit was registered in the first 9 months of 1981. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 10 Jan 82 Economic Supplement p 3 PY]

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN--A complementary accord, under the Paraguayan-Spanish social cooperation agreement, was signed yesterday at the Foreign Ministry. The accord will permit the implementation of a social and labor project in Paraguay; it foresees the sending of a Spanish technical mission, which will cooperate with the Justice Ministry, especially with the National Professional Promotion Service (SNPP). [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 15 Jan 82 p 8 PY]

MANAGER INVOLVED IN EMBEZZLEMENT--Criminal court sources reported this morning that a warrant has been issued for the detention of Miguel Angel Aranda, commercial manager of the National Development Bank. He was charged with participating in the embezzlement of 57 million guaranies from the bank. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 15 Dec [as printed] 82 p 33 PY]

CSO: 9110662

PREMIER ADDRESSES NATION ON AILING SUGAR INDUSTRY

FL142255 Bridgetown CANA in English 1925 GMT 14 Jan 82

[Report by Bertram Gilfillan]

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, 14 Jan (CANA)--St Kitts-Nevis premier, Dr Kennedy Simmonds, in a radio and television broadcast last night to explain "the cold, hard facts" about the state of the vital sugar industry, appealed to everyone to do their utmost to save it from collapse.

Concern has been expressed in many quarters about the state of the sugar industry, following the announcement by Dr Simmonds in his new year's message that sugar workers would not be receiving their customary incentive bonus at the start of this year's crop. This payment was introduced by the late Premier Robert Bradshaw in 1975, following the almost total nationalisation of the industry by the government.

"This is the time for every well meaning citizen to rally to the cause of this country. Let us put community before self, country above personal ambitions. Let us do everything in our power to ensure that the industry survives and that the workers' livelihood is secured," Dr Simmonds pleaded.

He went on to explain government's decision not to give the bonus this year, stressing that the "goatwater payment," as it is called, had been an exgratia hand-out from government revenue. "The decision to pay or not to pay rests with government," he said.

In setting out the factors which he said had brought the industry almost to its knees, Premier Simmonds pointed to the serious drop in the price for sugar from 400 pounds sterling a tonne to the present 160 pounds, on the British market.

He said this amount was 40 pounds less than the 200 pounds it took to produce a tonne of sugar. He said too that the industry was facing a (U.S.)\$33 million overdraft. The Bookers Agricultural Company report for 1981, he said, had clearly warned that if nothing is done to try to limit this increasing overdraft, the sugar industry itself will soon disappear."

"We cannot afford to ignore this serious warning," the premier declared.

Premier Simmonds told the nation that the industry's vehicles were badly in need of replacement, in addition to the fact that maintenance and operating costs were increasing, together with the cost of fuel.

He said that last year the National Agricultural Corporation (NACO) which is responsible for the field side of the industry, had total revenue \$11 million, (one EC dollar; 37 cents) but had a total wage bill of \$15.3 million.

Disclosing that NACO altogether lost \$18.4 million last year, Dr Simmonds declared: "There are clearly no proceeds from the industry, and government has to put money from other sources into the industry to keep it going and to protect the livelihood of the sugar workers.

Premier Simmonds announced that his government was seeking advice from the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington on ways to deal with the industry's current problems.

He said experts from the two financial institutions had already looked at the problems and would shortly be submitting their recommendations to government.

Dr Simmonds stressed the importance of an early start to this year's sugar cane harvesting, to avoid incurring further losses and aggravating the local economic situation.

He said sugar workers' wages were at an all-time high and with the other bonuses which remained, "workers could maintain or even increase their earnings in 1982 by diligent work."

CSO: 3025/1017

BIOGRAPHIC DATA OF BRIAN MICHAEL PILGRIM

FL182222 Bridgetown CANA in English 1745 GMT 18 Jan 82

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, 18 Jan (CANA)--Brian Michael Pilgrim, sworn in last night as interim prime minister of St Lucia pending new general elections, is considered one of the most popular figures in domestic politics today.

Born in the southern town of Vieuxfort 35 years (correct) ago, Pilgrim made his impact on the political scene just under 3 years ago, when he hoined the St Lucia Labour Party (SLP).

In the general elections of July 1979, Pilgrim, contesting in the large Castries south east constituency scored a crushing win over the incumbent, Hollis Bristol, of the then ruling United Workers Party (UWP). The final tally was 3,284 votes to 1,995.

When the new Labour cabinet was formed, Pilgrim became minister of state in the Ministry of Finance.

In a cabinet reshuffle 1 year later he was made a full-fledged minister with responsibility for planning, development and industry.

An accountant by profession, he was specially singled out by former Prime Minister Allan Louisy to spear-head plans which gave birth to the establishment of the islands state-owned National Commercial Bank a year ago.

Pilgrim sided with former Trade Minister George Odlum during the 21-month power struggle which plagued the Labour government from November 1979 to May 1980, when Louisy finally resigned.

When former Attorney General Winston Cenac was made prime minister, Pilgrim along with Odlum, and Odlum's younger brother, Jon, left the SLP and formed their own Progressive Labour Party (PLP), and Pilgrim was elected its deputy leader.

On leaving school Pilgrim started his career in accountancy with a 3 year apprenticeship in the firm of Cooper's and Lybrand. He then went to London and entered the Northeast London Polytechnic where he passed his examination for the associate of certified accountants.

In 1972, Pilgrim was admitted to the prestigious Association of Ceritifed Accountants. He shifted his studies to law and completed the intermediate bachelor of laws degree course as an external student while working at home with the accounting firm of Peat Marwick Mitchell.

Pilgrim discontinued law studies when he was appointed manager of the St Lucia Housing Development Bank. But after 3 years he resigned that job and became accountant at St Lucia Electricity Services. It was that job that he quit early in 1979 to enter politics.

A soft spoken individual, there are times when Pilgrim literally explodes. On one occasion during the power struggle between George Odlum and SLP Leader Louisy, Pilgrim surprised a packed house of assembly chamber when he rushed to governor general, Boswell Williams, [who] was delivering the speech from the throne, and shouted into the microphone that police were using force against some people outside. [Sentence as received]

Only last Monday, Pilgrim was involved in another incident in the house which brought a planned session to a premature end. PLP Leader Odlum grabbed the mace and threw it to Pilgrim who in turn hurled it into the gallery.

During his anti-government campaigns, especially against the SLP, Pilgrim was often seen in revolutionary outfit with long flowing hair and beret worn in identical fashion to the late Latin American revolutionary leader Che Guevarra.

Pilgrim sees himself as a progressive. He is generally felt to be an honest politician. In fact, one of his frequent public statements goes I come into politics clean and I plan to leave it clean.

At 35, Pilgrim is a bachelor. His parents are still alive. He is the eldest of a family of six brothers and one sister.

CSO: 3025/1017

BRIEFS

UNIONS SCORE VIOLATIONS IN POLAND--Paramaribo, Suriname, 9 Jan (CANA)--Suriname's four trade union federations have urged the Polish authorities to drop the tough line taken against the independent free trade union, Solidarity, a spokesman said today. The call was said to have been made in a telegram the unions sent to the Polish Government, which has suspended Solidarity, arrested some members and placed restrictions on the movement of others. The Suriname federations called for the release of imprisoned labour leaders and for Solidarity to be allowed to continue its operations. They said that the Polish Government's action cuts across the International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention safeguarding trade union rights. The federations sending the telegram were the Moederbono, Central-47, the Progressive Workers Organisation, and the Civil Service Workers Union. They urged the Suriname Government to protest to the Polish authorities about Warsaw's ending of trade union rights. [Excerpt] [FLO91919 Bridgetown CANA in English 1836 GMT 9 Jan 82]

CSO: 3025/1017

VARIOUS GROUPS REQUEST BOYCOTT OF SOVIET ARTISTS

PA081250 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2353 GMT 7 Jan 82.

[Text] Port-of-Spain, 7 Jan (EFE)--Organizations and individuals in Trinidad-Tobago have asked their countrymen to boycott the shows of a company of Soviet artists who will begin presentations tomorrow in Port-of-Spain.

The Anjuman Sunnatul Jamaat Association, representing 300,000 Muslims in these two Caribbean Islands and a similar number in Guyana, Venezuela and Martinique, support the boycott of Trinidad-Tobago Archbishop Anthony Pantin, who refused to attend the Soviet show.

The archbishop said that he would not attend the presentation of the 25 Russian artists because he is in solidarity with the Poles and other peoples who, he said, "are oppressed by the Soviet Union."

The archbishop explained that it was difficult to reconcile the cultural visit of the Russian artists with the situation existing in Poland and other countries.

The director of the Trinidad-Tobago Folklore Company, Aubrey Adams, who invited the Russians to this country, told EFE that tickets to the three shows were sold out and that he does not expect any trouble during the shows.

Haji Shaffick Rahaman, former president of the Muslims' association, asked his followers not to attend the Russian shows because the Soviet interfere in the affairs of many countries, such as Poland and Afghanistan. Rahaman, now secretary general of the South American Islamic Conference, said that the Soviets use their artists to infiltrate the Caribbean. He emphasized that the people of this country must be very concerned because freedom and human rights are violated in other parts of the world.

Rahaman asked all his countrymen, even though they may be of other religions, not to go to Queen Hall in Port-of-Spain to applaud the Russians.

The company of artists, which includes several magicians, dancers, singers and musicians, will arrive today in Trinidad from Mexico and Panama and will continue its American tour when it leaves for Venezuela next week.

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